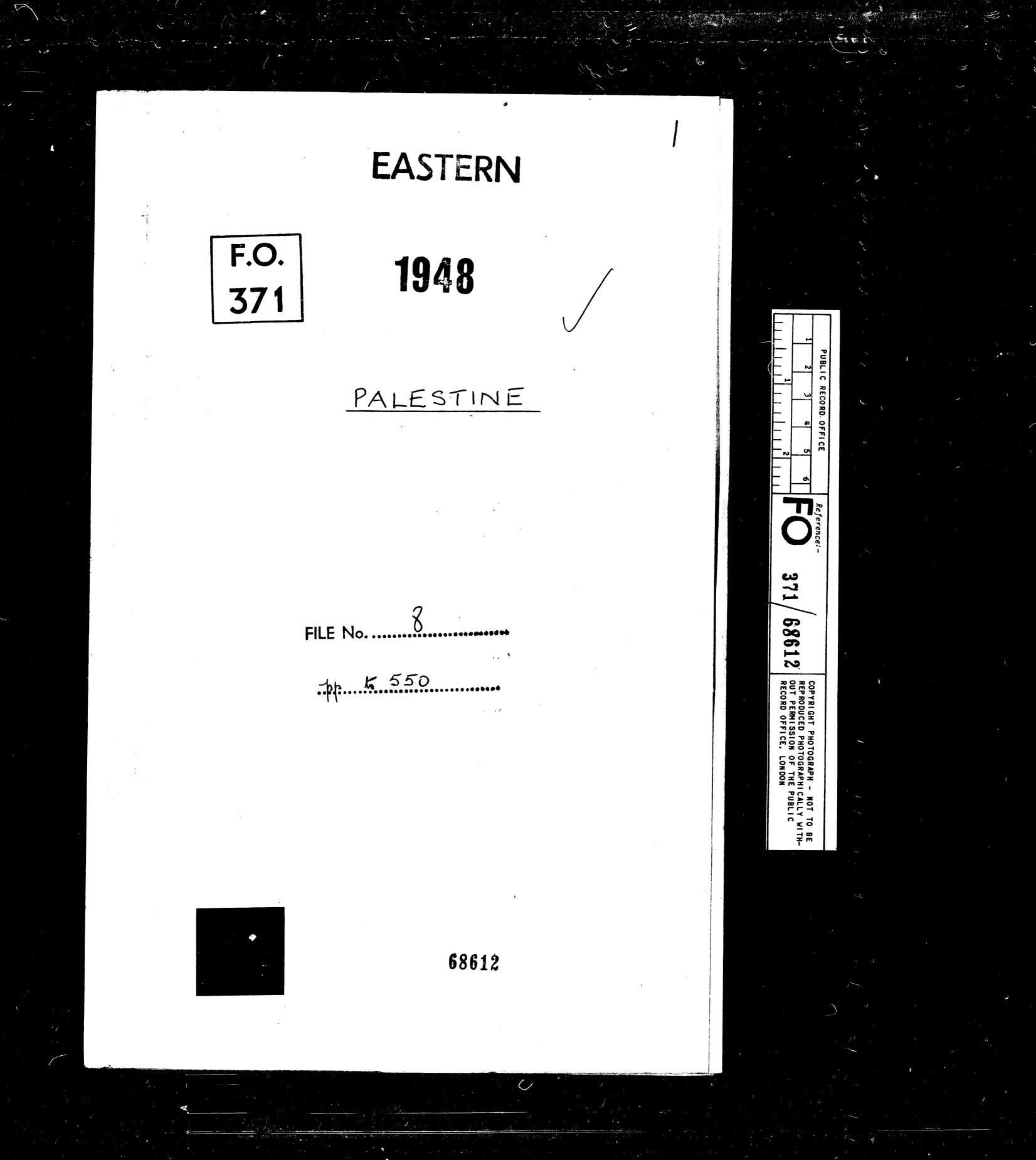
## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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2 E E 11943 JAN PALESTINE Evacuation of Military fines. Registry Number E8/8/31 Manual question of a special appointment for the supervision of the collection and exacution of utilitizing stars a Petertine. FROM 1. O. Minute M'Buick **No**. PUBLIC Dated Received in Registry 10 Lec RECORD. OFFI CE 1 Jan Last Paper. (Minutes.) 12397 /9373 /11. 47 24.73. 11 References. 68612 371 (Print.) 68612 (How disposed of.) REPR RECO ÖP TH R (Action completed.) (Kodex.) Next Paper. E 30 29470 F.O.P.

E\_\_\_\_8 JAN

SPECIAL APPCINTMENT FOR THE SUPERVISION OF THE COLLECTION AND EVACUATION OF MILITARY STORES FROM PALESTINE.

In order to carry out Cabinet decision on this point, the Ministry of Defence held a meeting on December 18th, at which I was present. The meeting agreed a provisional draft of the terms of reference for this appointment and I understand that this draft is being circulated today to the Permanent Under-Secretaries and the Service Departments and also to Sir Orme Sargent.

The Ministry of Defence state that Mr. Alexander has had under consideration a number of names for this appointment but that for one reason or another the most suitable people at the top of the list have not been able to accept. He hopes to have a proposal for the Cabinet within the next few days.

As regards the Secretary of State's request for periodical reports, I have agreed with the Ministry of Defence that the Official Committee on Palestine should be asked to make a periodical report on this matter.

Mr. S. Beins

J.G.S. Beith.

20th December, 1947.

HARGINAN 12.12 Mithanight

Privite Scrutzery



Minutes. 4 Eastern Department. The Secretary of State would like to know what action has been taken by the Ministry of PUBLIC Defence on the decision by the Cabinet that a special appointment should be made for the RECORD. OFFICE supervision of the collection and evacuation of military stores from Palestine. He would also like to receive periodical reports indicating how the movement of stores is proceeding. be Written in this Margin. RSC McAcpuie (T M. J.M. Minut attached . JD Dec. 20 18th December, 1947. 371/ 3 Nothing 68612 COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPH OUT PERMISSION OF THE RECORD OFFICE, LONDON OTOGRAPHICALLY W N OF THE PUBLIC LONDON TO 

5  $|\mathbf{G}|$ Calentine EZO 10-13 EASIERN Palestine: Plan for withdrawal 8 \$ 31/G E30 Cabine Mile COS(47)160 Th HIQ Minute 4 F Daied 19 dec. 2 Last Paper (Minutes) E12168/46/9-1947 7:13. 3' References E11898 46 9 - 1948 Reference: 371/ (Print) 68612 (How disposed of) COPYRIGH REPRODUC OUT PERM RECORD OI

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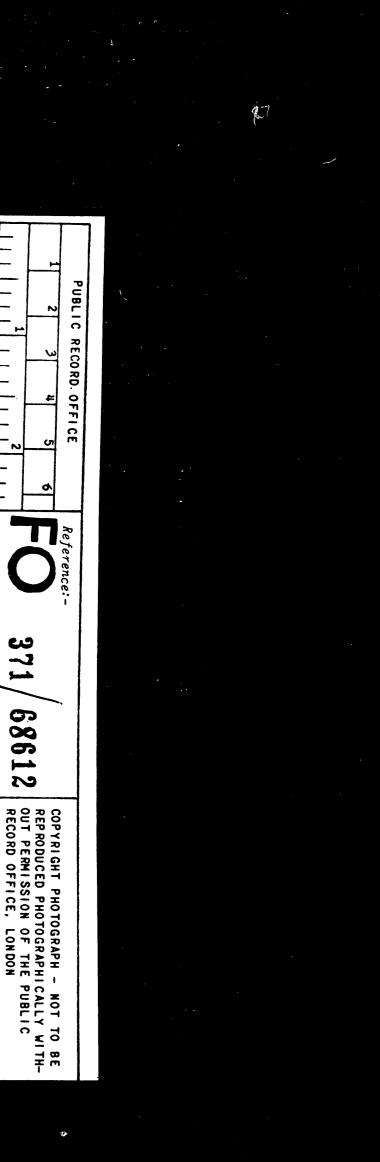
(Frevious Reference: D. O. (47)25th Meeting, Minute Confidential Annex

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THE CO.MITTEE had before them a Secretary's minute + 5 covering a draft telegram to the Commanders-in-Chief, Middle 30 East asking for their views on the possibility of evacuating Tel Aviv some weeks before 15th May, and informing them of the agreement of the Defence Committee reparaing the admittance of Jewish immi rants into Falestine.

MAJOR GENERAL LARD said there seemed to be some misapprehension about the course of action that was to be taken in Stage I of the evacuation from Fales inc. Under the present plan the army would be evacuation the case area during Stage I and it was understood that the civil administration of this area would not cease. until the date on which the Mandate was surrendered. There would be no difficulty, from the military point of view, in a military evacuation of Tel Aviv and, in fact, Jewish and Arab police were at present taking over duties in the areas of Tel Aviv and Garring. In the event of Tel Aviv being handed over to the Jews before the surrender of the Mandate, the High Commissioner in Falestine foresaw that this would give an opportunity to the Jews to import arms and ammunition and thereby, tend to increase the hostility of the Arabs. Such a proposal would involve a departure from the evacuation as planned, whereby civil administration of Palestine would be withdrawn on the surronder of the Mandate and not from particular areas prior to that date. 1) Server Johnt.

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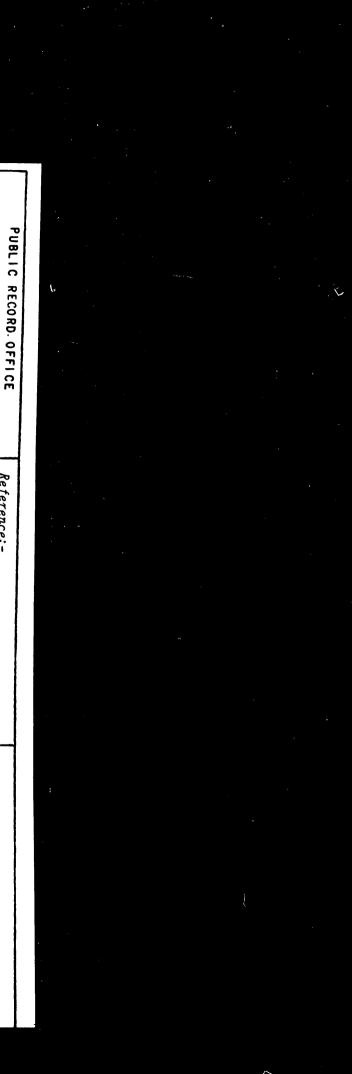
He thought, therefore, that the proposal, of which the Commanders-in-Chief, Middle East were fully aware, need not be referred to them, as the military aspects of it could be fully represented by the War Office. He suggested, therefore, that paragraphs 1 and 2 of the draft telegram to the Commanders-in-Chief should be deleted and that the War Office should prepare a draft report to the Defence Committee for the consideration of the Chiefs of Staff on the military aspects of the proposal to evacuate Tel Aviv some weeks before 15th May.

SIR JOHN EDELSTEN said that if Tel Aviv was handed over to the Jews it would still be possible to maintain a blockade at sea, but he doubted if this could, in fact, prevent the import of arms and ammunition by the Jews. Provided that the Commanders-in-Chief, Middle East were fully aware of the proposal, he would agree that the military aspects of it, which were largely an army matter, should be examined by the War Office.

THE COMMITTEE:-

- (a) Approved the draft telegram to the Commanders-in-Chief, Middle East as amended, and instructed the Secretary to despatch it.
- (b) Took note that the War Office would prepare a draft report to the Defence Committee examining the military implications of the proposal to evacuate the port of Tel Aviv prior to the surrender of the Mandate on 15th May.

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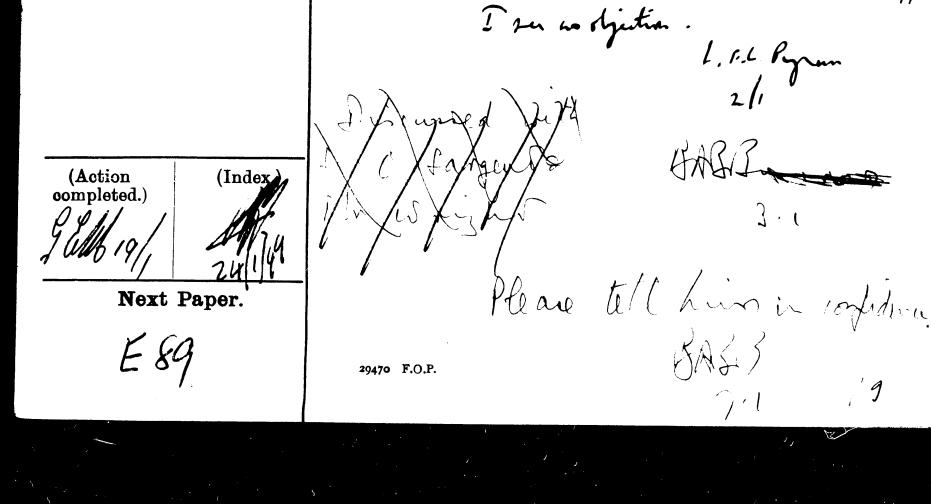
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Minutes of a Meeting held at the Foreign Office on Wednesday, 24th December, 1947 at 10.30 p.m. to discuss a telegram from the High Commissioner, Palestine, No. 2305 of 2nd December concerning the future of British representation in Palestine. There were present:-

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Cable

Mr.

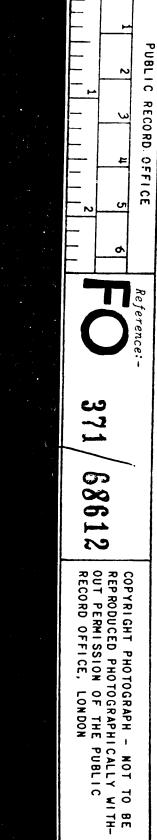
Mr. Gardener	Foreign Office, Establishment and Organisation Department (in the Chair)
Mr. Gutch	Colonial Office
Mr. Middleton	Foreign Office, Personnel Department
Mr. Cable	Foreign Office, Eastern Department
Mrs. Rennie	Foreign Office, Establishment and Organisation Department

1. As the situation in Palestine had become a little clearer since the last meeting on 26th November, it was Gardener Middleton agreed to suggest that the following Foreign Service staff should be sent out to arrive in Palestine in mid-April in order to take up duty on the expiry of the mandate in mid-May:-

- (i) An A4 officer of ministerial rank in Jerusalem assisted by experienced Colonial Office staff with local knowledge, and by an A7 officer, preferably an Arabist. He would also have under him the Colonial Office Dispersal Staff.
- (ii) An A6 officer (equivalent of Assistant Secretary) at Haifa who would be:-
  - (a) Consul-Generaf;
  - (b) Political Adviser to the G.O.C., their mutual relationship being determined by a joint directive from London;
  - (c) In charge of any residual Colonial Office staff in the Haifa area.

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**E** 39



It was decided to send a telegram to the High 2. Commissioner in Palestine embodying these proposals and asking for his comments upon them.

It was pointed out that anyone due to arrive in 3. Palestine by mid-April would have to return to this country for consultations and briefing by mid-March, and therefore that, owing to the difficulty in finding men suitable for this task, as much warning as possible would be needed of any change in the present time-table. The Colonial Office was asked to earmark suitable 4. buildings through the High Commissioner as soon as they had received an estimate of the numbers which the Foreign Office expected to have in Palestine. The meeting was reminded that a new name would have 5. to be devised for our representative in Jerusalem and it was suggested for futare discussion that "Political Representative" might fit the bill.

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Your telegram No. 2305 Secret of 2nd December was discussed at a meeting between the Foreign Office and ourselves.

Telegram

Palestine

(General Sir A. Cunningham)

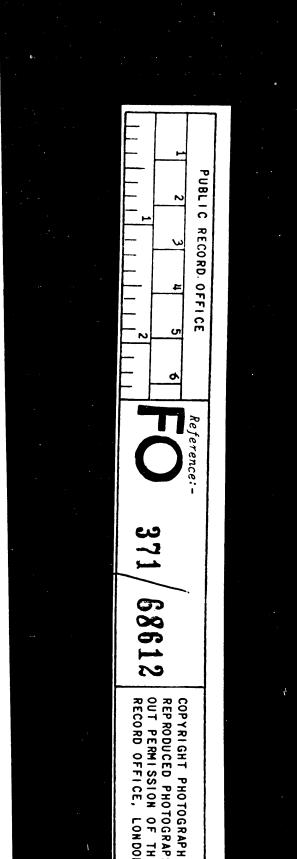
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From Secretary of State for the Colonies

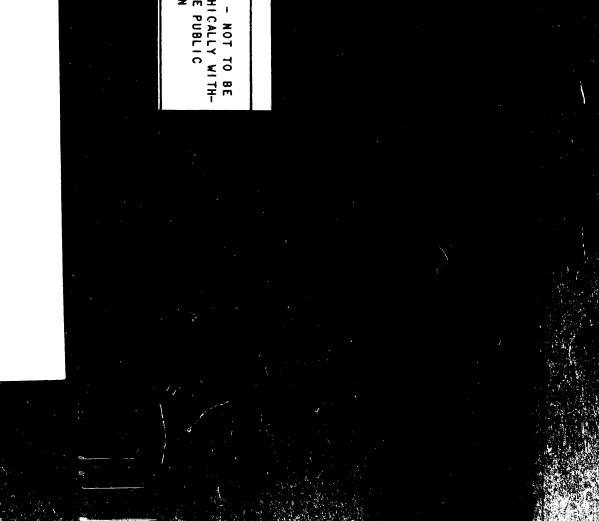
> Mr. Jardentr Mr. Middleton Mr. Cable

The Foreign Office now suggests that the British staff to be in Palestine as from mid-April and take up duty on the expiry of the mandate in mid-May should consist of the following:-

- (1) A Foreign Service officer of the rank of Minister in Jerusalem (on the assumption that the United Nations Commission will select this spot as their Headquarters) with a junior Foreign Service Officer as his assistant. As he will be called upon by the United Nations Commission for local advice, the Foreign Office would be grateful if one or more experienced officers of the Government of Palestine could be loaned for a period. The Colonial Office Dispersal Staff would also fall under the protection of this Officer.
- (11) A Foreign Service Officer at Haifa who would:-
  - (a) be Consul General.



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(b) Act as Political Adviser to the

General Officer Commanding, their mutual relationship being determined

by a joint directive from London.

(c) Give cover to any residual Colonial

Office staff in the Haifa area.

I should be glad to have your views on these

proposals.

FOREIGN OFFICE 3.7.1.

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X. . 14/31(8/47)

December 31, 194

I enclose a copy of the minutes of the meeting which we both attended on December 24th in order to discuss the future of British representation in Palestine, together with a draft of the telegram which it was them agreed should be sent to the High Commissioner.

If you approve, perhaps you would have this telegram sent.

J. Gutch, Esg., Colonial Office.



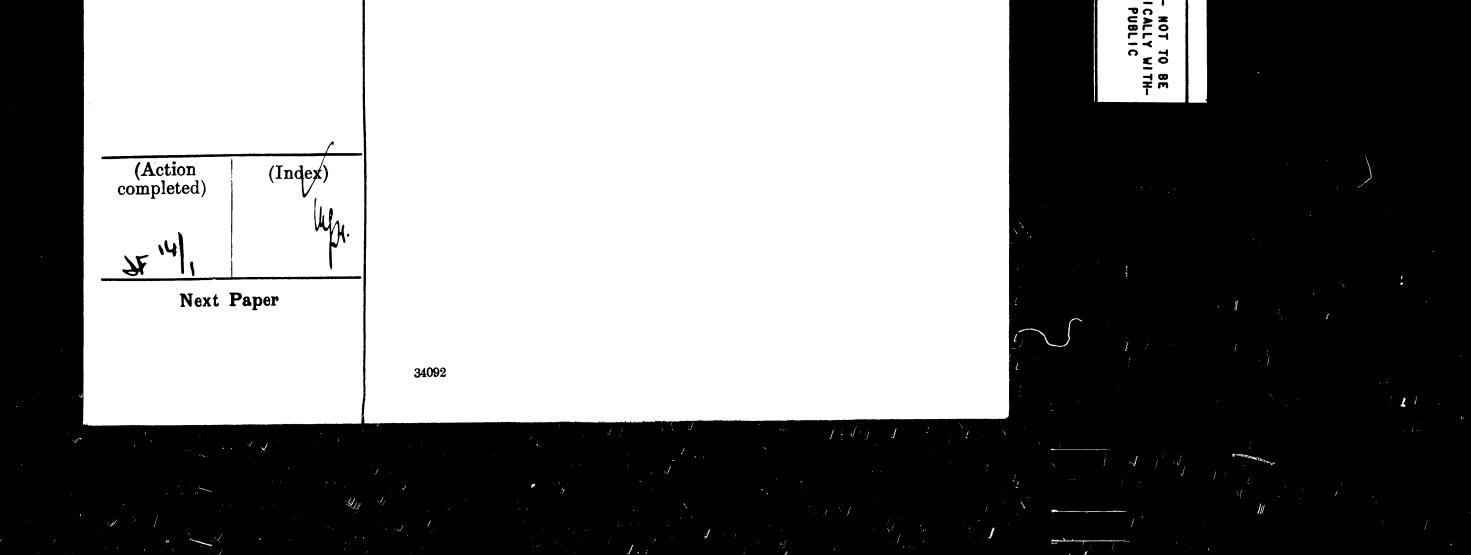
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Minutes. 14 E89 Mr. Bunowo. PUBLIC RECORD. Sir Drm. Sargent' yesterday arked OFFICE for a minute on the implications of the latest desdepments in Palestine, with particular reference to the possibility of inding the Mandati unsiderably earlier than the 15th May. Al your suggestion doubt 371 I have embodied this idea in a fletter to the bhairman of the OCP. 68612 H.Buly / COPYRI REPROD OUT PE RECORL AAAA milonight 1.1

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Written in this

MasChanged to this extent and to know whatMthe cost of advancing our withdrawal in thisTway would be in terms of stores left behind		Minutes. 15
This afternoon whether he had any objection to the Foreign Office representative at the Falestine meeting on Wednesday pressing for the termination of the mandate on February lat and withdrawal of our troops two and a half monthe later. The Secretary of State did not agree to this and thought he would be put in a very foolish position if, after announcing in the House of Commons in December that May 15th was the earliest practicable date, we were now to say that we could get out on February lat. He would therefore like the Foreign Office representative to find out why the situation has changed to this extent and to know what the cost of advancing our withdrawal in this way would be in terms of stores left behind etc. Our officials could then report to him and he would discuss the matter with his colleagues. The Secretary of State also mentioned that he thought it undesirable to be rushed into retreats because of troubles which hed notyet exceeded the limits he had expected. It should, I think, be made clear that the Secretary of State is not opposed to advancing the date for withdrawal but he wants to know the answers to his questions above and to reflect on the matter further before commiting himself.		Mr. Wright. MRL. Mr. Burrows.
Note </td <td></td> <td>this afternoon whether he had any objection to the Foreign Office representative at the Palestine meeting on Wednesday pressing for the termination of the mandate on February lst and withdrawal of our troops two and a</td>		this afternoon whether he had any objection to the Foreign Office representative at the Palestine meeting on Wednesday pressing for the termination of the mandate on February lst and withdrawal of our troops two and a
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	<b>P</b>	clear that the Secretaty of State is not opposed to advancing the date for withdrawal but he wants to know the answers to his questions above and to reflect on the
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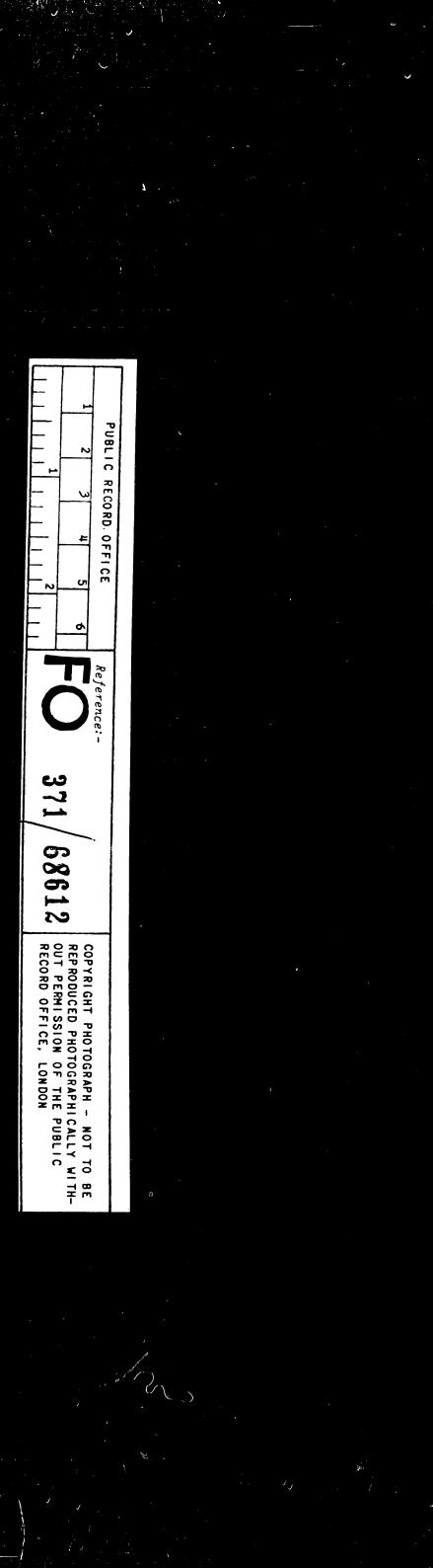
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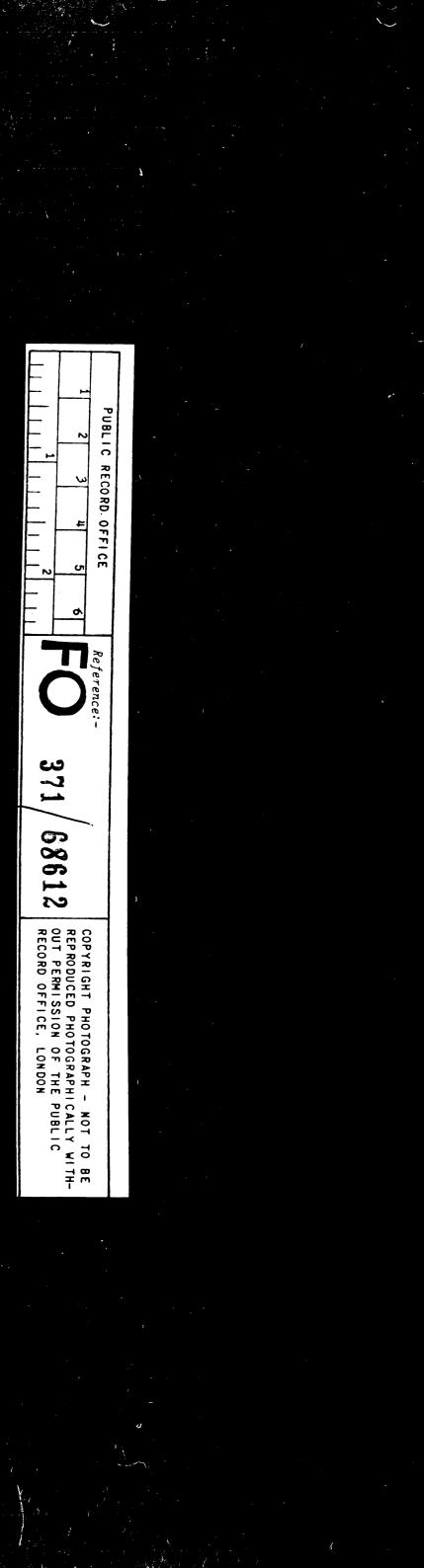
TOP SECRET FOREIGN OFFICE, S. .... 16 January 1947. In the light of developments during the last few days, we have been giving further consideration to the plan under which the withdrawal from Palestine is at present being carried out. It now appears that acts of violence committed by Arabs against Jews and by Jews against Arabs/

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have created a situation which is beyond the control of the leaders on either side, and which threatens to bring/out a partial break/down of both the administration and the economic life of Palestine. If this development leads to an increasing use of troops to su port the Assyrian Administration , it must presumably result in slowing down the concentration of movement of military sources and so prolong the operation of withdrawal. In other words it seems likely that the Civil Administration, which the Chiefs' of Staff originally wished to retain until 15th May in order to facilitate the military withdrawal, may from their point of view soon become a liability rather than an asset. In these circumstances it may be found that the termination of the mandate, involving withdrawal of the Givil Administration, at an earlier date would enable the troops to concentrate to a greater extent on the task of military withdrawal, not only because they would no longer have to protect the Civil Authorities but also because the areas from which all British control hadd been removed might operate as lightning conductors, so that Arab/Jewish conflict would tend to occur in those areas rather than in the parts of the country still under military occupation. In other words,

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it may now be found that our aim of completing the withdrawal of troops by the 1st August may be more easily accomplished if the mandate is terminated at an earlier date.

A second new factor in the situation is the imminent arrival in Cyprus of the "PAN CRESCENT" and the "PAN YORK" carrying an unprecedently large cargo of illegal immigrants. These immigrants will occupy almost /whole of /remaining accommodation in Cyprus, so that the sailing of even one more similar ship between now and the middle of May would face us with a problem to which

we have not yet succeeded in Finding any solution. Diversion with The VN Commission have not seen segue. If, as is likely, we encounter serons to be considered again is the programme of the. difficulty in allaying Their a trival until May, United Nations Commission. This boay will be will obviously be another factor to be taken into making contact with Sir A Gadogan in a few days time, in order to discuss inter alia the date of its arrival in Palestine. The Foreign Office have always doubted whether it would be possible to secure the Commission's agreement to postpone its arrival until the 1st May. If we were compelled driven to prevent it from arriving earlier, we should be accused of obstructing the will of the General Assembly. If we gave way to the Commission's insistance, its arrival would introduce a new element of chaos into the situation some time before the termination of the mandate under present plans.

For the above reasons we think the time has come for a review of the present policy. If you agree, I would suggest that the Official Committee on Palestine should be convened at an early date review to /examine this policy in relation to the situation now existing in Palestine, and to make any recommendations to Linisters which seem wiew necessary in the light of his examination.

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OUT FILE FOREIGN OFFICE, S. W.1.

2nd January, 1948.

(E 89/8/G) TOP SECRET

Dear Luke

In the light of developments during the last few days, we have been giving further consideration to the plan under which the withdrawal from Palestine is at present being carried out.

It now appears that acts of violence committed by Arabs against Jews and by Jews against Arabs have created a situation which is beyond the control of the leaders on either side, and which threatens to bring about a partial breakdown of both the Administration and the economic life of Palestine. If this development leads to an increasing use of troops to support the civil Administration, it must presumably result in slowing down the concentration and movement of military stores and so prolong the operation of withdrawal. In other words it seems likely that the divil Administration, which the Chiefs of Staff originally wished to retain until the 15th May in order to facilitate the military withdrawal, may from their point of view soon become a liability rather than an asset. In these circumstances it may be found that the termination of the mandate, involving withdrawal of the civil Administration, at an earlier date would enable the troops to concentrate to a greater extent on the task of military withdrawal, not only because they would no longer have to protect the civil authorities but also because the areas from which all British control had been removed might operate as

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S. E. V. Luke, Esq., C.M.(., Cabinet Offices.

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lightning conductors, so that Arab/Jewish conflict would tend to occur in those areas rather than in the parts of the country still under military occupation. In short, it may now be found that our aim of completing the withdrawal of troops by the 1st August may be more easily accomplished if the mandate is terminated at an carlier date.

A second new factor in the situation is the imminent arrival in Cyprus of the "Pan Creacent" and the "Pan York" carrying an unprecedently large cargo of illegal immigrants. These immigrants will occupy almost the whole of the remaining accommodation in Cyprus, so that the sailing of even one more similar ship between now and the middle of May would face use with a problem to which we have not yet succeeded in finding any solution.

Discussions with the United Nations Commission have not yet been begun. If, as is likely, we encounter serious difficulty in delaying their arrival until May 1st, this will obviously be another factor to be taken into account.

For the above reasons we think the time has come for a review of the present policy. If you agree, I would suggest that the Official Committee on Palestine should be convened at an early date to review this policy in relation to the situation now existing in Palestine, and to make any recommendations to Ministers which seem necessary in the light of this review.

Lows sincerely

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(B. A. B. Burrows)

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WHITEHALL 5422

3rd January, 1948.

TOP SECRET

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Dear Burrows,

Thank you for your letter of 2nd January (E 89/8/G).

I agree that it would be useful to have an early meeting of the Official Committee on Palestine to review the approved policy in the light of recent developments in Palestine and elsewhere. I am asking Evershed to try to arrange a meeting in the early afternoon of Wednesday, 7th January.

We ought, perhaps, to consider whether it would be helpful to circulate any document ahead of the meeting in order to focus discussion. Perhaps you would consider this point and let me know what you think. I understand that the Chiefs of Staff reply to the Foreign Office reference on the question of the date of termination of the Mandate should be ready by Monday, and it might be that that would be a convenient start for the discussion.

I have heard from the Colonial Office that Fletcher-Cooke is due to reach London at the beginning of the week on his way to New York. I think that it would be interesting to the Committee, as well as useful, if he was invited to the meeting.

We can take the opportunity to discuss the outstanding paper on the protection of the Haifa oil installations, if that is generally thought to be convenient.

Yours sincerely,

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B.A.B. Burrows, Esq., Foreign Office.

5 20 91 1948 JAN PALESTINE 2 Which draw 1 from Palatine Registry Number **§ 91** 8 31 vances local remispopers have published account of statement TELEGRAM FROM alliged to have been made by 11/C chot which indirates M' Brood med wente men toking place night delay our withdrawol Publication of these statement for green real No. DRAMMALL PUBLIC to the dates which have been publicly anounced Dated 2. Received in Registry RECORD. OFFI CE 1. Fan 2 -Last Paper. (Minutes.) 7#13. 12y 89 E References. See within: Palestine tel. no. 38 of 79an. H.B. 15) 371 (Print.) 68612 (How disposed of.) 8 Mathuron. 60 towarded bat off 14.1.39 NOY APH - NOT TO BE RAPHICALLY WITH-THE PUBLIC admity **B** N îл Jan 2 (Action completed.) (In Next Paper. 30471 F.O.P Eisq 11

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Cypher /OTP ٦,

2 JAN DEPARTMENTAL

FROM DAMASCUS TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Mr. Broadmead No. 2 1st January, 1948 D. 5.2 p.m. 1st January, 1948

R. 6.5 p.m. 1st January, 1948

Repeated to Jerusalem Beirut.

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No. 2 of 1st January, repeated to Jerusalem and Beirut.

## CONFIDENTIAL

Various local newspapers have published an account of statement alleged to have been made by the High Commissioner Palestine in a press Conference, which indicates that events now taking place might delay our withdrawal. Publication of this statement has given rise locally to doubt as to our intention of holding to the dates which have been publicly announced.

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INWAR	D TELEGRAM		E Enhr.
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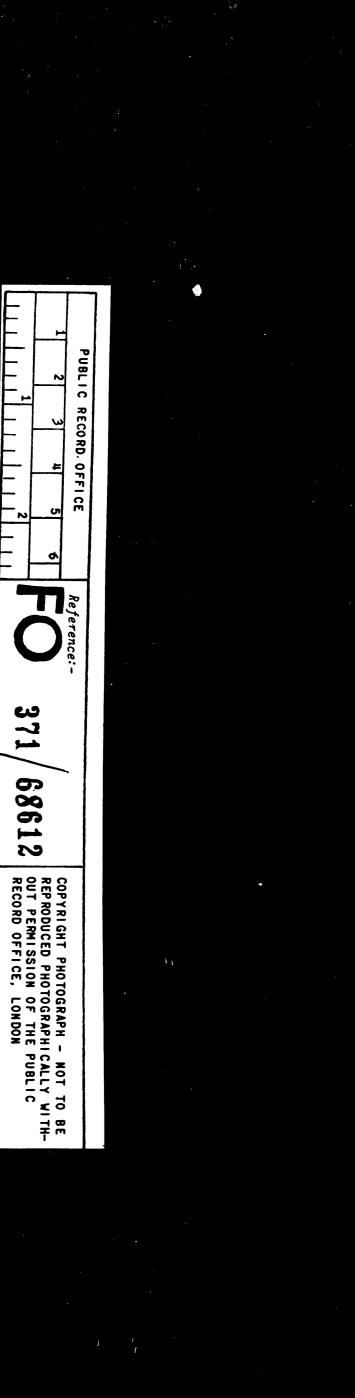
Your telegram No. 2 to the Foreign office.

Passage of my statement referred to said that disturbances would tend to slow up military (repeat military) withdrawal. No official suggestion has at any time been made that they would delay (or hasten) civil (repeat civil) withdrawal.

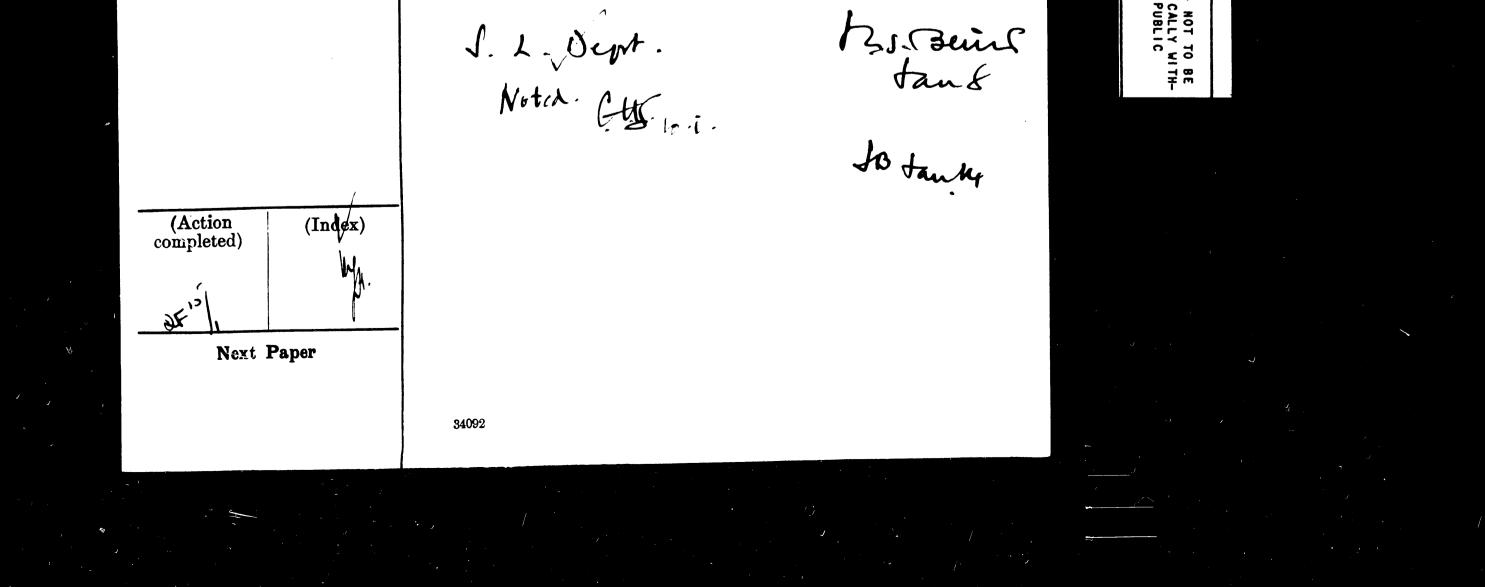
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5 | S Foreign affaire. 24 (THIS DOCUMENT IS THE PROPERTY OF HIS BRITANHIC MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT) PUBLIC Foundatt 31.xu N ٦i In. -RECORD. OFFICE TOP SECRET S. Ś ₽ CHIEFS OF STAFF COMMITTEE S ~ Ø C.O.S. (47) 161st. Meeting, Items 3.4.9.10 d 22nd December Re 1947. erence: An extract from the above utes is attached. 371 1971 (Sigmed) D.C. STAPLETON. 68612 COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH-OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON STRY OF DEFENCE, S.W.1. , 1947.

PALESTINE - PLAN FOR WITHDRAWAL. (Previous Ref: C.O.S. (47) 157th Meeting, Minute 5)

SIR FRANK SIMPSON recalled that the Minister of Defence had asked for detailed information about the plan for withdrawal from Palestine and for progress reports on the withdrawal. e circulated a draft paper **prepared** by the War Office giving the Army aspect of the plan for withdrawal and suggested that the Admiralty and Air Ministry be invited to make any additions and amendments to it they considered necessary.

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It had been suggested <sup>+</sup> that the Commanders-in-Chicf should render a fortnightly progress report. The Commanders-in-Chief would find it difficult to produce such a report at fortnightly intervals as its production would involve much additional administrative work. <sup>H</sup>e suggested that they be asked to submit monthly reports and that if fortnightly reports were required they could be prepared by the War Office from "Sitreps".

SIR WILLIAM DICKSON said that arrangements had already been made for the Air Ministry to receive fortnightly progress reports from the Air Officer Commanding-ih-Chief MED/ME.

There was general agreement with the suggestion made by the Vice Chief of the Imperial General Staff.

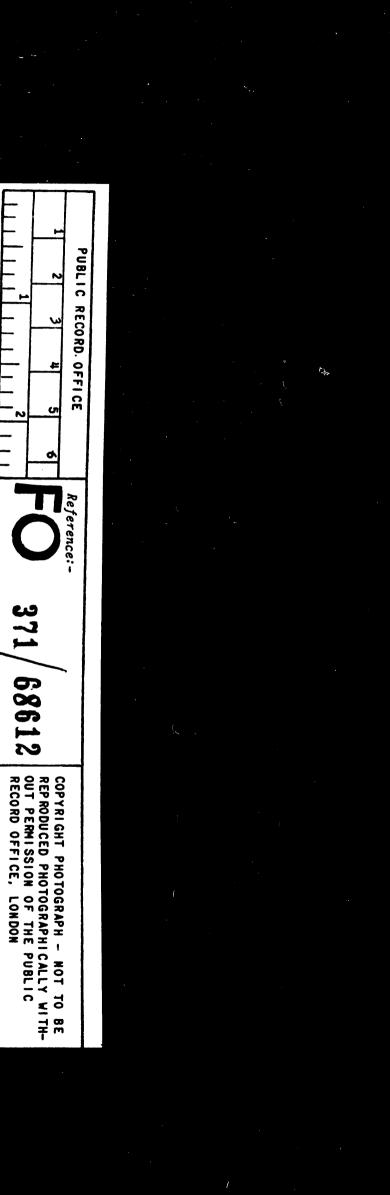
THE COMMITTED:-

 (a) Invited the Admiralty and the Air Ministry to inform the Secretary of their approval to or comments on the draft paper circulated by the Vice Chief of the Imperial General Staff if possible by 6 p.m. 23rd December.

+ COS 1483/12/12/7

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(b) Invited General Hollis to seek the views of the Minister of Defence after the completion of the report in (a) above on the suggestion at 'X' above.

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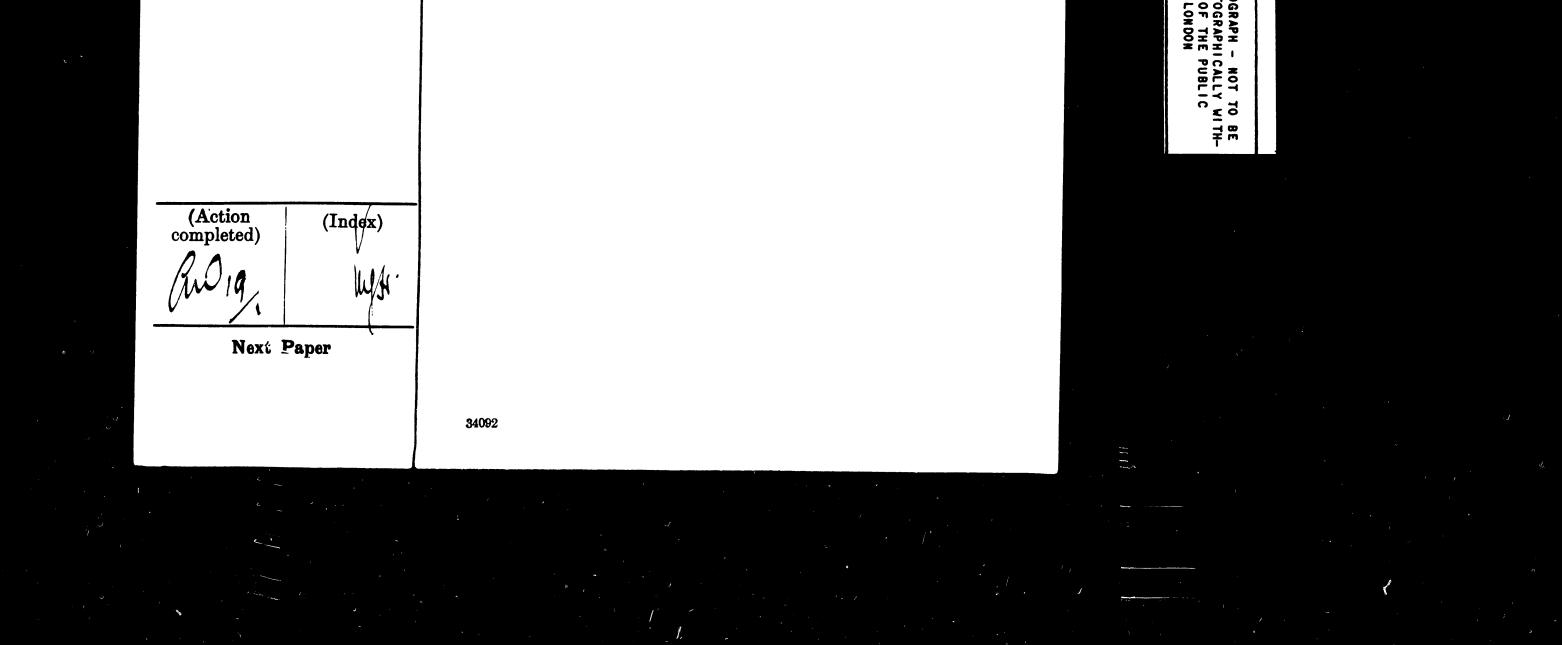
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EILO /G 27 Westin 1043 EASTERN E 160 19 31/G 18 Evacuation from Palestine Cabiner opiee COS (44) 161 5 HIQ Min 10 PUBLIC RECORD. OFFICE dated I 2 dec. Last Paper (Minutes) EISQ **R**eference the Serr tan 17 References E12101 1951131 371 (Print) 68612 (How disposed of) COPYRIGH REPRODUC OUT PERM RECORD 0



99 Jec. 1947. 28 E160 minute<sup>+</sup> 6.0.5(47) 161 st Inty =

## 10. PALESTINE - EVACUATION

THE COMMITTEE had before them a Secretary's minute<sup>+</sup> reporting that the Minister of Defence had sought the wiews of the Chiefs of Staff on a telegram from the Acting Prime <sup>+</sup> C (1946) Minister of Australia, about the establishment of the United Nations Commission in Palestine.

SIR FRANK SIMPSON said that the issues raised by Dr.Evatt were not new and that they had all been fully considered by H.M.Government. The High Commissioner in Palestine had recommended that the civil administration of Palestine could not be continued longer than 14 days after the arrival of the United Nations Commission, whilst the Commanders-in-Chief, Middle East had strongly advised that the armed forces could not remain in Palestine once the civil administration had been withdrawn. It seemed to him, therefore, that there was no case to be made for accelerating the arrival of the United Nations Commission unless our own evacuation was also accelerated. Under the present programme of evacuation a considerable quantity of military stores would be lost and if the programme was accelerated the quantity of stores that would be lost would be greatly increased.

SIR JOHN EDELSTEN said that the decision to resist te arrival of the United National Commission before 1st May, was taken on the grounds that the establishment of dual civil authority was a constitutional impossibility and moreover that it would be necessary for Mandatory control to continue until our military withdrawal was well advanced. Dr. Evatt's recommendation that the arrival of the United Nations Commission should be accelerated could not be accepted unless these assumptions were dismissed. He circulated a draft minute to the Minister of Defence on these lines.

SIR WILLIAM DICKSON said that it seemed inevitable that the arrival of the United Nations Commission would accelerate and intensify the hostility of the Arabs. It seemed likely that the United Nations Commission could only operate in Jewish territory and to accelerate its arrival would increase the misk of our having to afford it protection against the Arabs. Dr. Evatt did not seem to have taken into account the importance to the Commonwealth of continuing good relations with the Arabs, and we could not afford to accept any avoidable risks such as this proposal entailed. He suggested that this point should be inserted at the end of paragraph 3(b) of the draft minute circulated by the Vice Chief of Naval Staff.

## THE COMMITTEE:-

Invited General Hollis to submit the draft minute circulated by the Vice Chief of Naval Staff, as amended, to the Minister of Defence.\*

> + COS. 1531/19/12/7 # Annex III to follow.

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Ministry of Defence, S.W.1.

23rd December, 1947.

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## ANNEX III.

## Copy of a minute (reference COS 1548/24/12/7) dated 24th December, 1947, from General Hollis to the Minister of Defence.

The Chiefs of Staff Committee have considered Telegram No. 347 from the Acting Prime Minister of Australia.

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2. You will recall that the decision of the Defence Committee<sup>+</sup>, to resist any suggestion that the U.N. Commission might arrive before 1st May, 1943, was taken on the agreed advice of the Chiefs of Staff and the Foreign Office and depended on:-

- (a) the constitutional impossibility of dual authority; and
- (b) the necessity for Mandatory control of Palestine to continue until our military withdrawal is well advanced.

The policy for the withdrawal is based on the need for conducting the operation in the manner least likely to involve administrative difficulties and not on the legality of the date of surrender of the Mandate and arrival of the United Nations Commission.

The latter reason is as valid now as it was when the decision was taken, and the Chiefs of Staff cannot recommend any departure from the approved policy.

3. The Chiefs of Staff recognise that political arguments must be more prominent than strategic considerations in drafting a reply to this telegram, but desire to emphasise two particular points:-

- (a) the policy of refusing our active collaboration in any plan which the Arabs reject is, strategically, of the same critical importance for the rest of the British Commonwealth as it is for the United Kingdom;
- (b) the high probability of armed resistance by the Arabs against the U.N.Commission is a matter for regret, but follows from the nature of

the U.N. decision, and is not, of course, affected in any degree (as paragraph 5 of the Australian telegram suggests) by the purely administrative arrangements we have been bound to make to safeguard our withdrawal. The arrival of the Commission, which would almost certainly have to operate in Jewish territory for which we should still be responsible for law and order, would be bound to accelerate and intensify arab hostilities. This would place us in the precarious position of having

+ D.O.(47)25th Mtg.,Min.1.

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to defend the Commission against the Arabs, aggravating Arab feeling against us and delaying our withdrawal.

4. The Chiefs of Staff think that as all the issues raised by Mr. Evett have already been fully considered by H.M. Government and that no new factors have been raised, a departure from our existing policy could not be justified.

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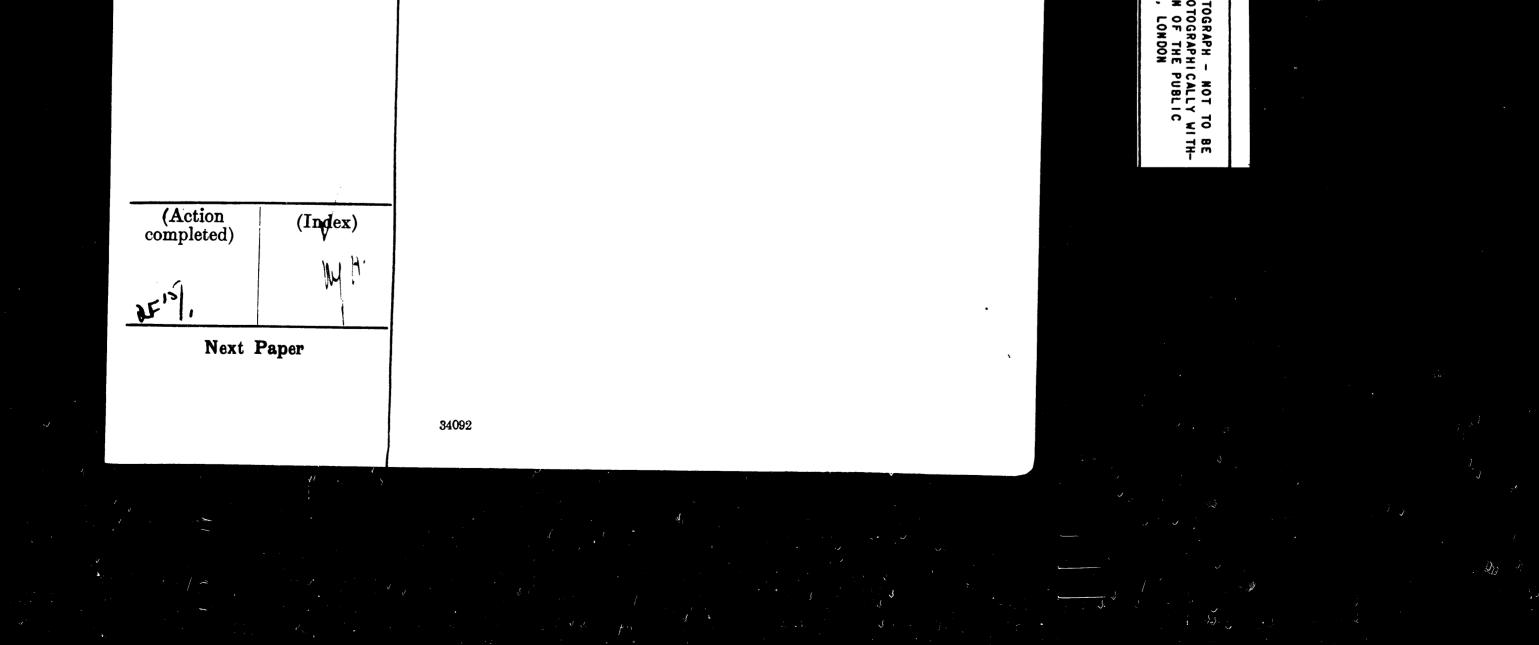
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Eibr / G 32 Palestine EXCLURN 3.3 19 Palestine: Plans for withdrawal E1611 8 Cabiner Office CO8 (479) 160 M/19 Him 5 Dates 22 dec Last Paper 3PP (Minutes) E160 b3 hur.8 References Reference: E159/8/5 371 (Print) 68612 (How disposed of) REPR OUT RECO

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6.0.5(47)162<sup>nd</sup> Mity E161 6.0.5(47)162<sup>nd</sup> Mity E161 6.0.31 Dec. 144;

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PALESTINE - PLANS FOR WITHDRAWAL

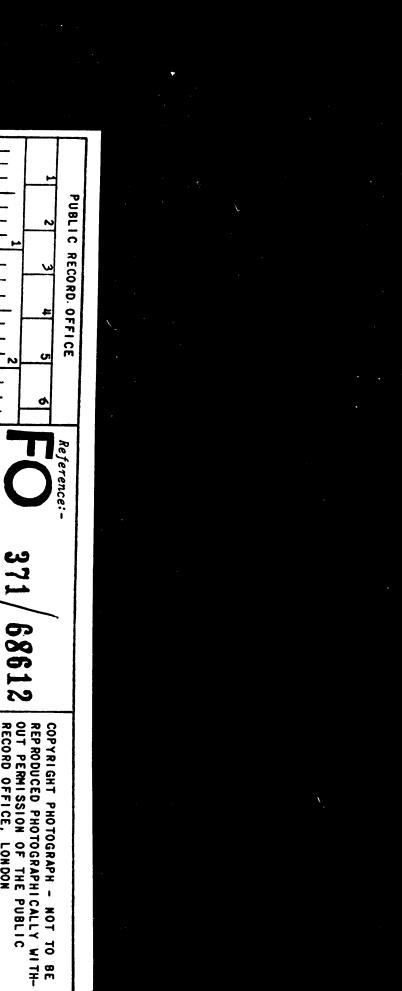
(Previous Reference: C.O.S.(47)161st Meeting, Minute 3)

SIR JOHN EDELSTEN and SIR WILLIAM DICKSON said they were in agreement with a draft paper circulated by the Vice Chief of the Imperial General Staff at the previous meeting setting out the detailed plans for the withdrawal from Palestine. Some outstanding problems such as the control of Illegal Immigration would have to be dealt with as they arose. THE COMMITTEE:-

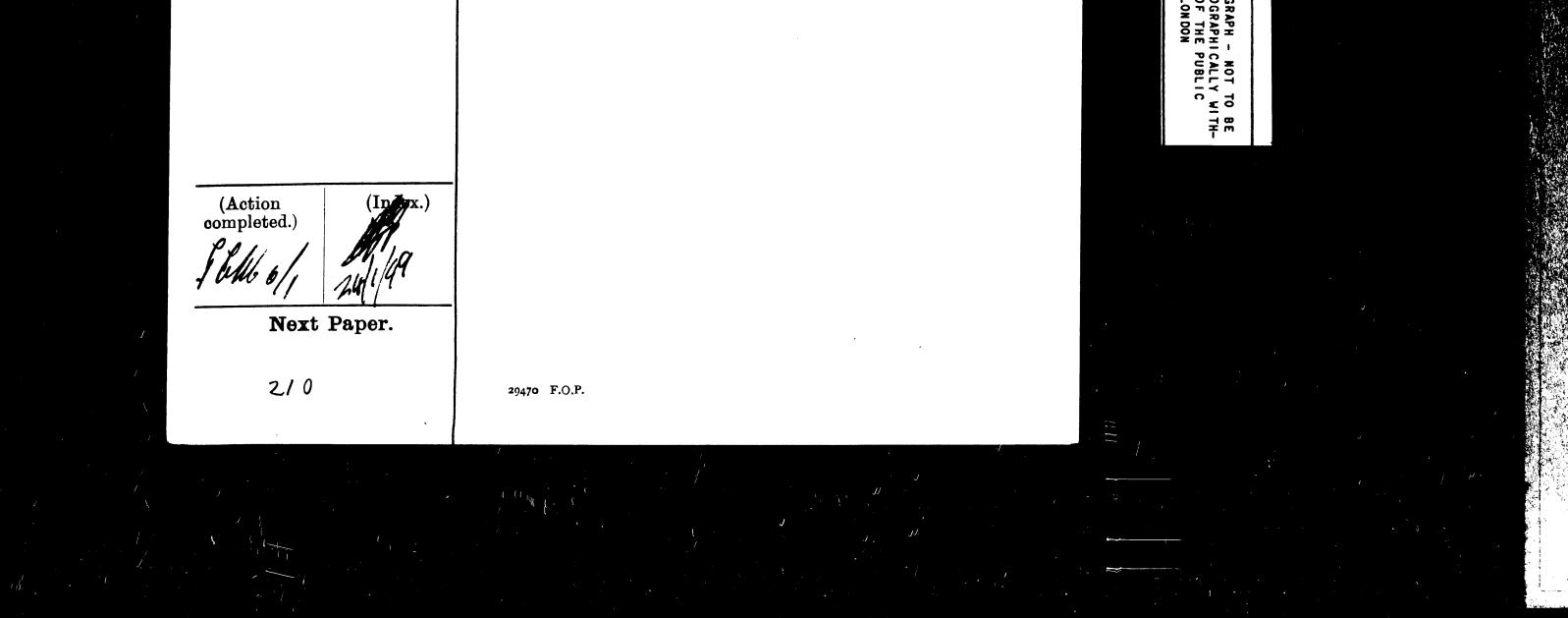
> Approved the draft paper circulated by the Vice Chief of the Imperial General Staff and instructed the Secretary to submit it to the Minister of Defence over their signatures.

> > + Circulated as C.O.S. (47) 270(0)

Subsequent to the Meeting certain amendments were received from the Air Ministry and incorporated in the Memorandum by the Chiefs of Staff.



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#### OUTWARD TELEGRAM

FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES ENER 75872/159/47 En Clair E 205

> TO PALESTINE (Gen. Sir A. CundinghellAN Sent 2nd January, 1948. 12.15 hrs.

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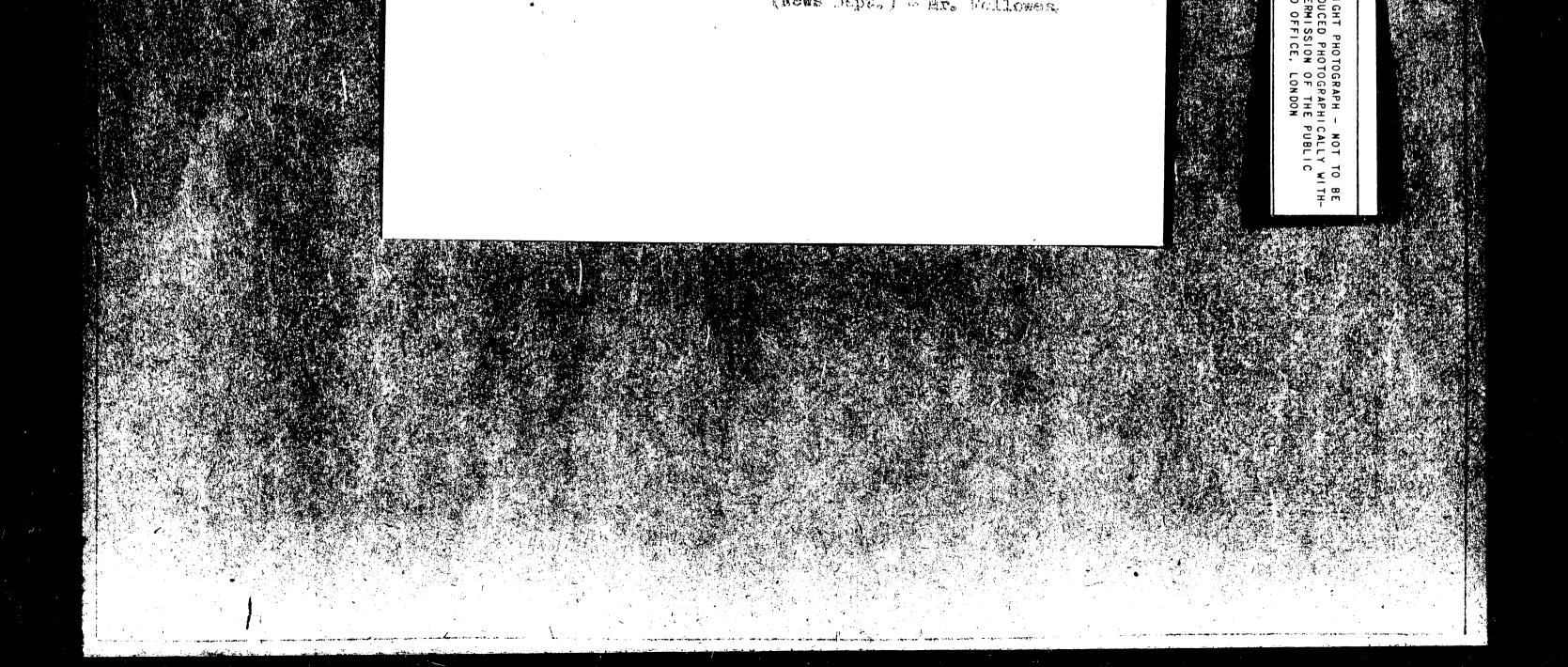
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Report in today's Times from Jeressien dated January 1st reads: "The Government here now considers it in the best general interests that the Mandate should end sooner than May 15th, provided that the United Nations Commission agree, and it is possible that the date may be advanced by about 6 weeks." Report goes on to suggest that Fletcher-Cooke will ask Commission for 2 nonths notice of date of arrival in Paleating, presumably mid-March. Overlap

2. Grateful for most inmediate report on above. Provisional line of comment being taken here is that while it has always been recognised that an earlier date than. May 15th might be desivable, if found possible, it is not the case that any decision has been taken to abortan period of civil government.

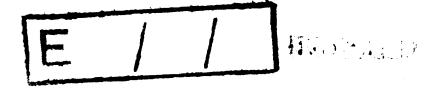
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Poreign Office (News Dept.) - Mr. H. Beeley. (News Dept.) - Mr. Follower.



INWARD TELEGRAM

TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES



Cypher (O.T.P)

FROM PALESTINE (Gen. Sir A. Cunningham)

D. 2nd January, 1948. R. 2nd " "

16.35 hrs.

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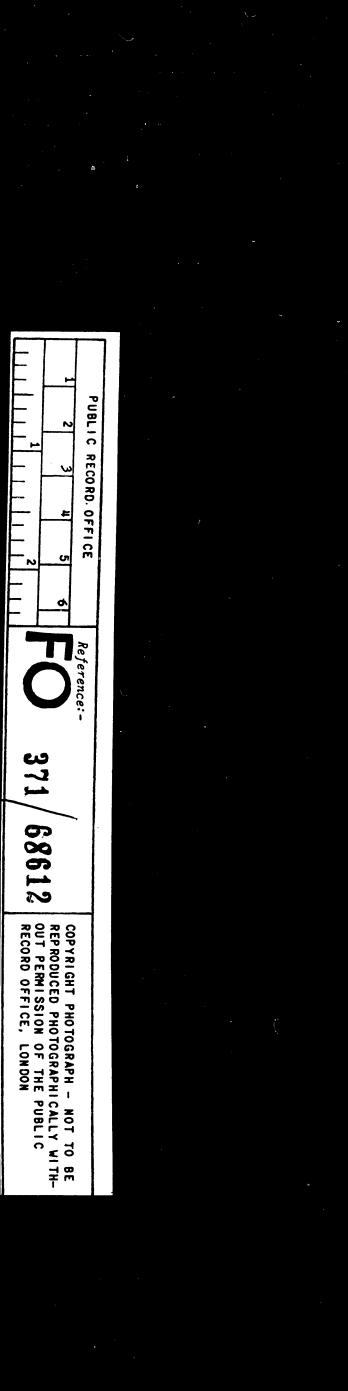
No. 10 SECRET

Your telegram No.14.

I do not know on what the Times Jerusalem correspondent bases his statement. Suggestion that Fletcher-Cooke will ask the Commission for two months notice of date of arrival is unfounded. Line of comment being taken here is that these speculations are based on no official statement and that the declared instructions of the Government remain as stated by the Foreign Secretary and yourself. I am announcing that Fletcher-Cooke is leaving for New York to assist in dicussions with the Commission.

Copies sent to:-

Foreign Office (News Dept.) - Mr. H. Beeley Foreign Office (News Dept.) - Mr. Fellowes



10 37 E E 210 E JAN 1948 PALESTINE weldend of ream Palatar. Registry E210/8/31 up fatte you for channen and all FROM highed hauth 10 24/12 Portung any of CRO. Alto from torido House ~ R 11 915 No. lamit Ariked I by each all card gotting Dated RECORD. Received in Registry ( - IM . addrawal from Palitac. OFFICE Last Paper. (Minutes.) 205 Ja P.P. J. B. Hannon, J.R. J. K. R.A.D. Ford, Banado Idrune 5/, References. The point mile by the Canadians 371 is a reasonable one. Our policy is correctly stated in (Print.) 68612 CRO tel. Mr. 965 but when (How disposed of.) we say that we shall Contrine to be administration responsible for the could Country until the Mandate teruni ates he do not gna ante that me (Action (Index completed.) mainton order aw ≺ tervitory evacuater by Next Paper. ar cumstances army all 4 213 29470 F.O.P. PTO

C. L. Veplfonatsairs It is actrandimany that Mr. Pearson's mind should still to so confused on these questions. He do not intend to hand one any authority to local agencies . It is perfecting possible (a would be in normal conditions) for a Britsh administration to continue in parts J Palestine without the backing of locally stationed troops Indud this has always happened, as it has in most other countries. H-13 1

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With Mr. G.B. Shannon's Compliments. NY OF Commonwealth elations Office, Downing Street. C, 24th December, 2947. SECRET. Dear Trafford, I enclose a copy of a semi-orficialAN from Canada House about C.R.O. telegram D. No. 965, of which I enclose an additional 23.12.47. copy for ease of reference. 2. I also enclose a note of what I said at the conversation referred to in the letter. The letter asks for confirmation of that I described at the time as my own impression of our policy. Could you let me know whether I can confirm it, and whether there is anything else that I should say? 3. I am sending a copy of this letter to Beeley. Yours ever, (Sgd.) G.E.B.SHANNON G.E.B. Shannon

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TRAFFORD SMITH, ESQ. COLONIAL OFFICE.

SECRET . 20PY.

OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR CANADA CANADA HOUSE S.W.1.

#### Dear Godfrey,

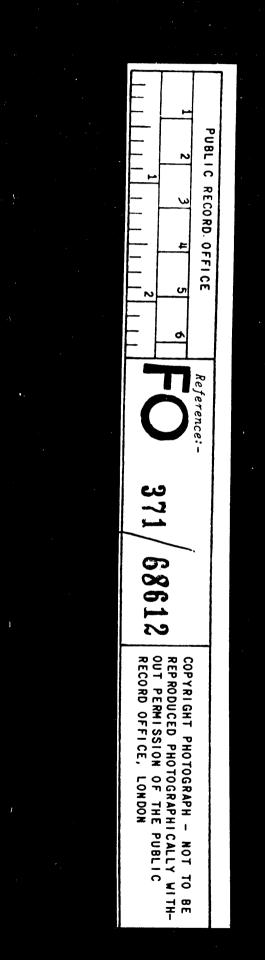
With reference to our conversation yesterday, I write to give you the gist of the enquiry from Ottawa concerning the intention of the U.K. authorities about the military withdrawal from Palestine. The relevant extract reads as follows:

> "You will notice in C.R.C. telegram D.965 that the U.K. authorities have indicated that they will withdraw their military authorities from certain areas in Palestine before they have withdrawn their civil administration. The impression we got in New York was that their intention was precisely the opposite, and that although they might in some cases withdraw the civil government in advance of military authorities, they would not reverse the process and leave their civilian authorities in charge in areas from which the military has been evacuated.

> "It would appear from tel. D.965 that there will be areas from which the U.K. military authorities have been withdrawn and in which no alternative forces exist except such local ones as the U.K. itself may organize and leave in charge. This will mean, I should think, that effective power will have been assumed, in advance of the arrival of the United Nations Commission, by these local agencies which are permitted by the British to take over responsibility for the maintenance of order after the withdrawal of the British Army. In New York however the U.K. delegation made repeated assertions that the U.K. would not in any

> > circumstances

GODFREY SHANNON ESQ. COMMONWEALTH RELATIONS OFFICE DOWNING STREET. S.W.1.



# circumstances be responsible for the transfer of authority directly from U.K. officials to local agencies".

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I should be grateful if you would confirm to me that the verbal impression you gave me yesterday on British policy is correct.

Yours sincerely,

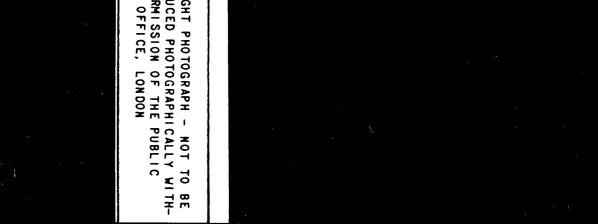
#### (Sgd.) R.A.D. Ford.

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#### PALESTINE.

1. Mr. R.A.D. Ford, of Canada House, spoke to me on 22nd December about an enquiry from Others, arising out of C.R.O. telegrend 1. No. 955, which elucidated C.R.O. telegrom D. No. 25. The enquiry originated on a personal busis labour Mr. L.B. Pearson, the Canadian who was chairman on Sub-Committee One of the Ad Loc committee on Palestine at the U.N. Assombly.

2. I said that the int ation, of telegran D. No. 965 was to make clear that, even when British troops were withdrawn the civil administration would remain until the termination of the mendate; telegram D. No. 955 might have been taken to mean that the civil administration would be withdrawn with the troops. My understanding was that, when the troops ware withdrarn, the civil administration would presumably continue to rely upon a police . force for the maintenance of order, although this might be organized in a special way to sait the special circumstances. But the civil administration would remain responsible for the main course



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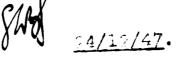
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of order and there has no question of transferring

responsibility to "local agencies" before the

mandate was laid lown. When the mondate wis laid down, musiconsibility could be transferred to the

U.N. Commission, who would take such decisions as



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they som fit.

This is an unparaphrased version of a Secret cypher (typex) message and the term must first be paraphrased if it essential to communicate it to p rsons outside British and U.S. Government Services.

COPY. OUTWARD TEL. FROM CONNONWEALTH RELADING OFFICE. CYPHER (TYPEX) R.D.

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(1 -	4)	(Sent	9.30	p.m.	10th	Dec.	1

(5 & 6) (Sent 9.50 p.m. 10th Dec. 1947) (5 & 6) (Sent 9.5 p.m. 10th Dec. 1947)

D. No. 965 S India No Pakistan No	. 14575	SECRET SECRET	
(to 1 - 4)	My tel.	7th Dec.	D. No. 955.
(to 5)	My tel.	7th Dec.	India No. 14539.
(to 6)	My tel.	7th Dec.	Pakistan No. 14540.

#### PALESTINE

His Majesty's Representatives in Arab States have been instructed to make it clear to Governments to which they are accredited that statement that general trend of British withdrawal in Palestine will be from south to north refers only to military withdrawal (my tel. under ref. paras. 5 and 7). Until end of mandate Palestine Govt. will remain administratively responsible throughout Palestine, irrespective of whether or not military forces have been withdrawn from any particular area.

Copy to: Foreign Office

Mr. I.A. Kirkpatrick Mr. J.P.G. Finch (4) Mr. B.A.B. Bu rows le1

Colonial Office

Mr. Trafford Smith

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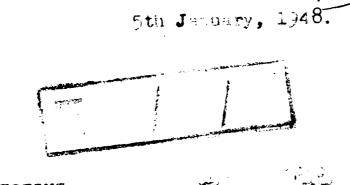
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"ith Mr. Shannon's Compliments.

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#### PALESTINE.

SECRET.

With reference to your letter of 23rd December, 1947, about the Secretary of State's telegram D.No.965 of 10th December, I am glad to confirm what I said to you on 22nd December.

Although the military withdrawal from Palestine will begin before the end of the andate, and in fact has already begun, the withdrawal of troops from any given area does not mean that the civil government in that area will relinquish the administration before the time for handing over to the United Mations Commission. The civil administration will continue to function and will rely, as heretofore, on the police force to maintain order. The responsibility for the maintenance of law and order has always rested with the civil government, supported by the civil police force, although it is open to the civil power to call in the military when circustances require. There is no question of transferring responsibility to "local agencies", before the mandate is laid down, in areas from which troops have been withdrawn. Then the mandate 13 laid

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N.A.D. FORD, ESQ. CANADA HOUVE.

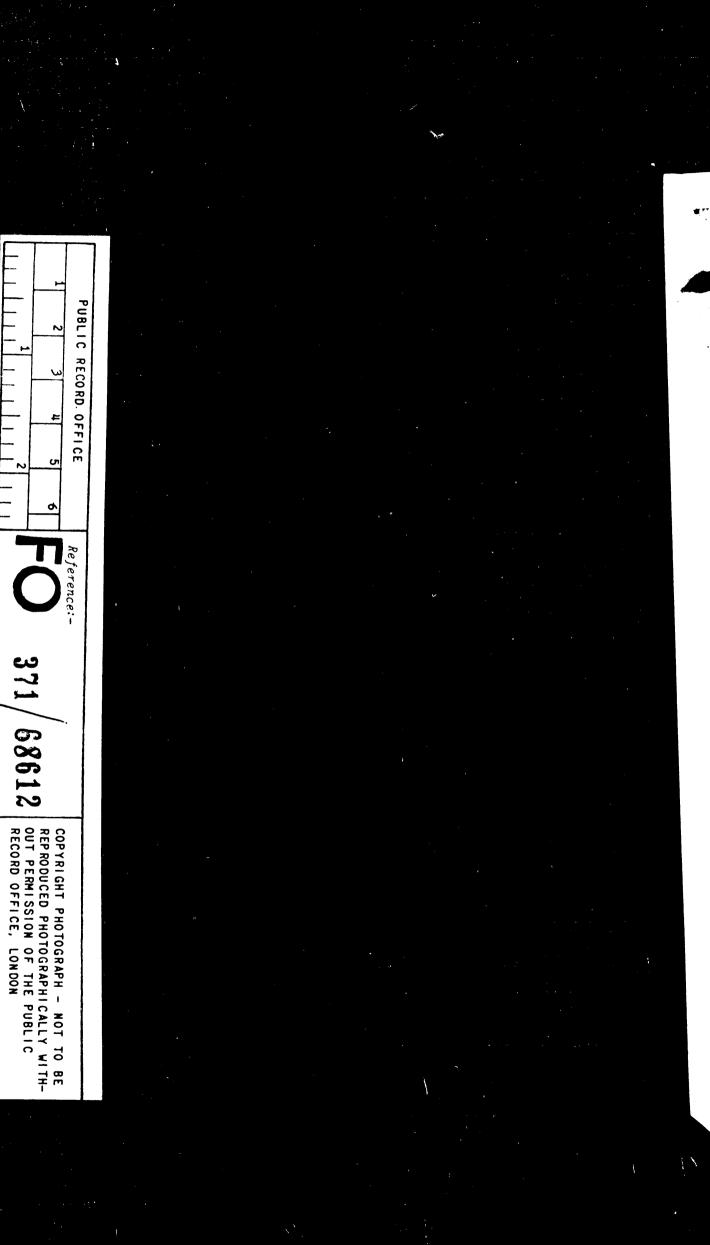
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# down, reconsibility will be transferred to the United Nations Conclusion.

#### Yours sincerely,

G.E.B. Shannon

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With Mr. Shannon's Compliments. 5th January, 1948. [3

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Lear Robert.

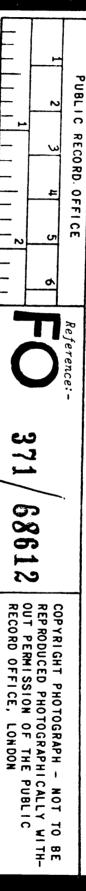
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R.A.D. FORD, ESQ. GANADA HOUSE.



down, responsibility will be transferred to the United Nations Commission.

Yours sincerely,

Godfice Flammon

G.E.B. Shannon

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Office of the High Commissioner for Canada, Canada House, London, S.W.1.

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December 23rd, 1947.

Dear Godfrey.

"ith reference to our conversation yesterday, I write to give you the gist of the enquiry from Ottava concerning the intention of the United Kingdom authorities about the military withdrawal from Palestine. The relevant extract reads as follows:

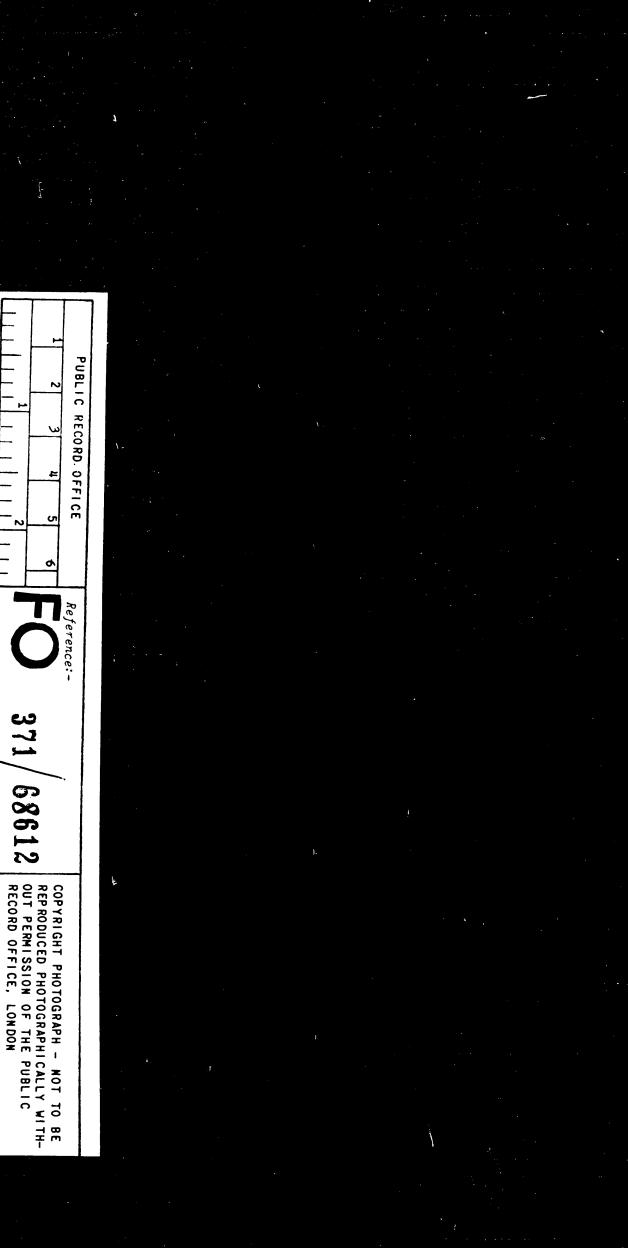
SECRET

"You will notice in CRO telegram D.965 that the United Kingdom authorities have indicated that they will withdraw their military authorities from certain areas in Palestine before they have withdrawn their civil administration. The impression we got in New York was that their intention was precisely the opposite, and that although they might in some cases withdraw the civil government in advance of military authorities, they would not reverse the process and leave their civilian authorities in charge in areas from which the military has been evacuated.

"It would appear from tel. D.965 that there will be areas from which the U.K. military authorities have been withdrawn and in which no alternative forces exist except such local ones as the U.K. itself may organize and leave in charge. This will mean, I should think, that effective power will have been assumed, in advance of the arrival of the United Nations Commission, by these local agencies which are permitted by the British to take over responsibility for the maintenance of order after the withdrawal of the British Army. In New York however the U.K. delegation made repeated assertions that the U.K. would not in any circumstances be responsible for the transfer of authority directly from U.K. officials to local agencies."

I should be grateful if you would confirm to me that the

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# verbal impression you gave me yesterday on British policy is correct.

Yours sincerely,

(Sgd.) R.A.D. Ford.

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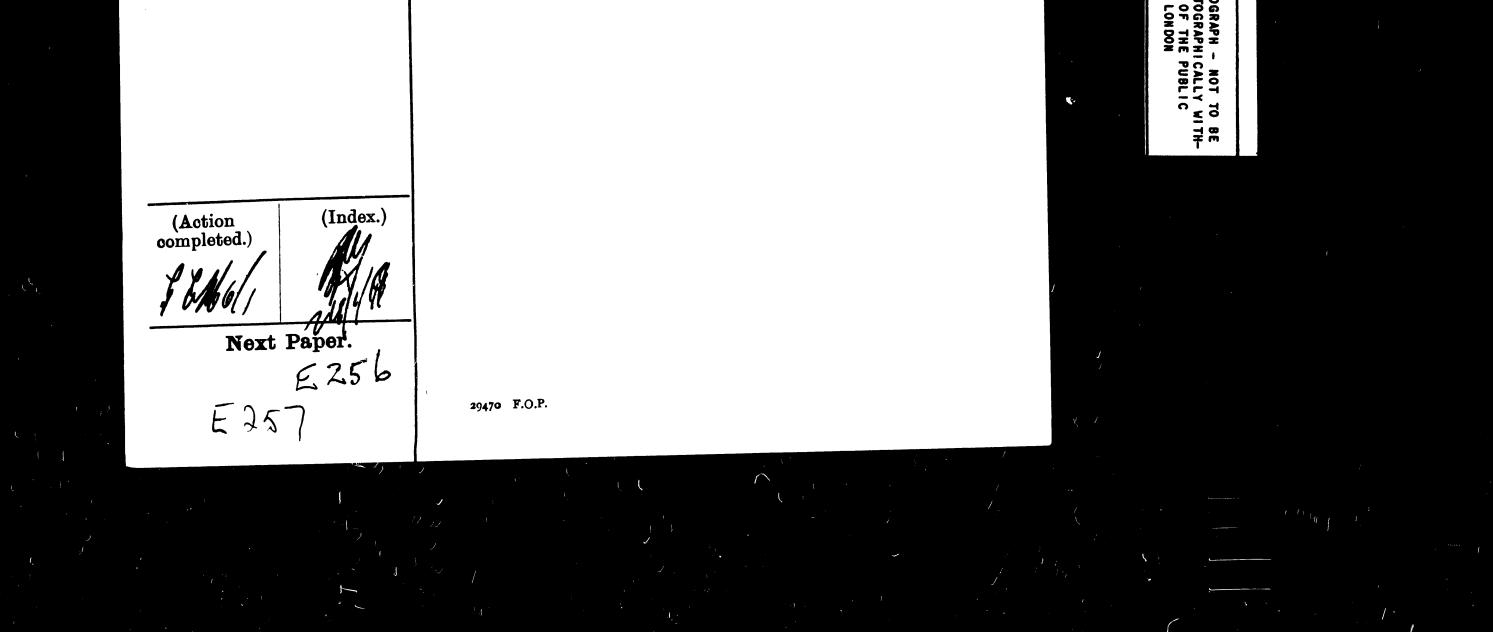
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#### OUTWARD TELEGRAM

FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES

Cypher (O.T.P.)

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TO PALESTINE (Gen. Sir. A	Cun	uan inshew)

E 213

Sent 30th December, 1947, 16.15 hrs.

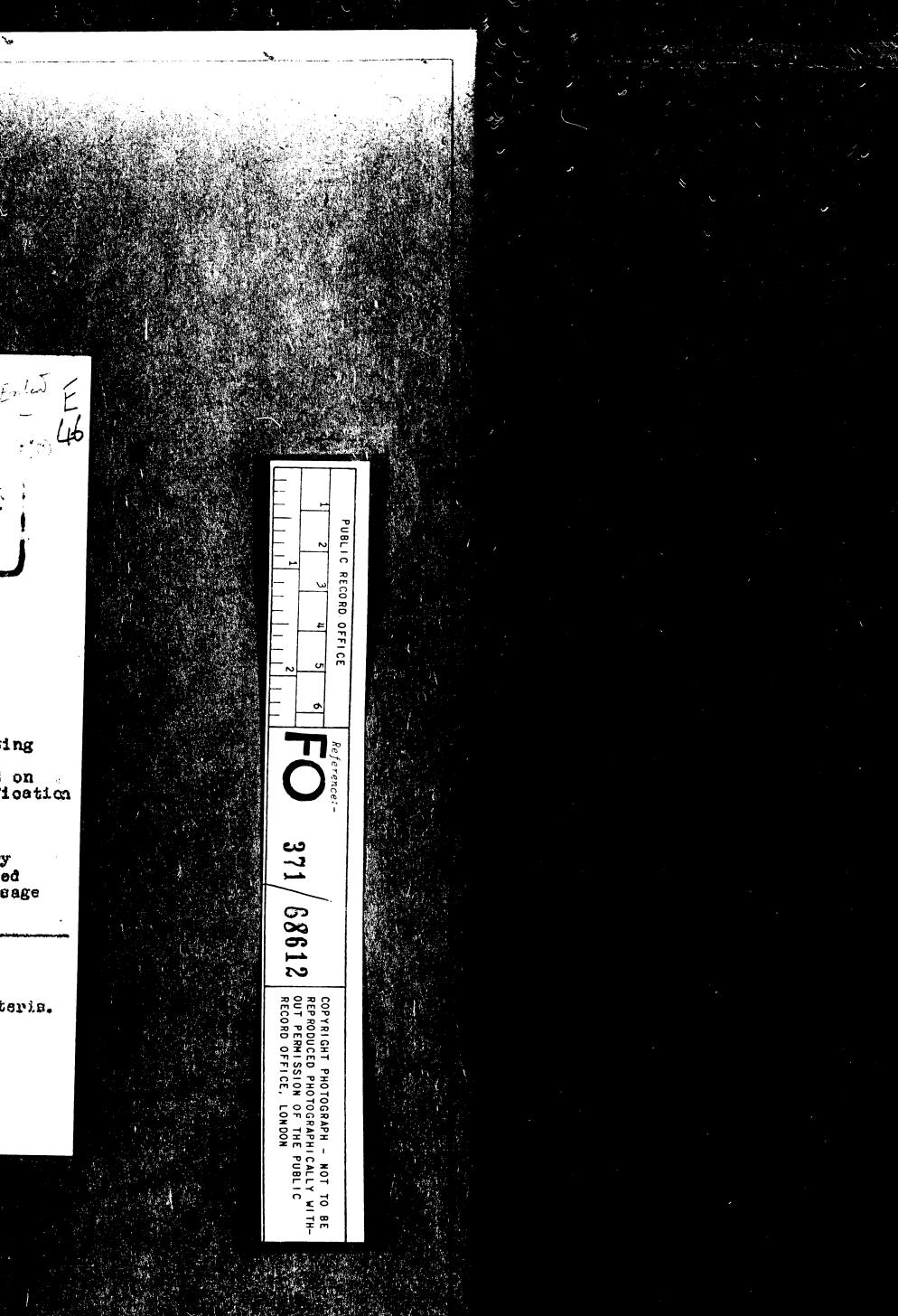
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No. 3430 Becret,

Reuter message just received here from Jerusalem quotes "competent observers" as suggesting that the withdrawal of the British civilian administration from Pelestine due to be completed on May 15 may be delayed as a result of the intensification of the communal fighting throughout the country. Story likely to be published here at any moment.

2. I assume that no statement has been made by the Pelestine Government which could be interpreted as giving euthority to the text of the Reuter message given above.

Copies sent to:-Foreign Office - Mr. H. Beeley. " "(News Dept.) -Mr. Fellows. War Office (M.O.4.) - Lt.Col. M.M. Charteris.



TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES Cypher (0. T. P.) PROM PALESTINE (Gen. Sir A. Cunningham) D. 30th December, 1947. R. 30th "20.50 hrs.

INWARD TELEGRAM

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#### MOST IMMEDIATE

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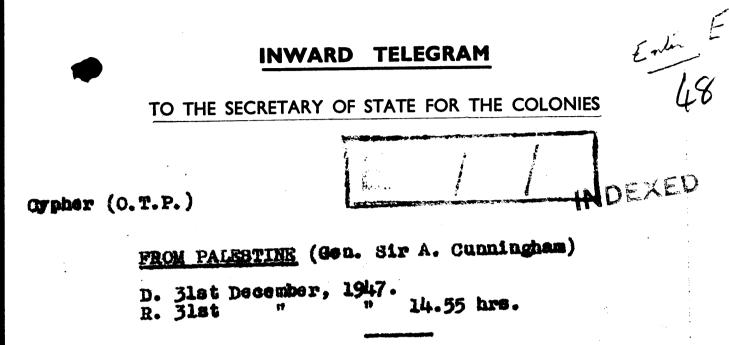
No. 2530 Secret.

Your telegram No. 3430. Your assumption is correct.

Copies sent to:-

Foreign Office - Mr. H. Beeley.

(News Dept.)- Mr. Fellowes. War Office(M.O.4.)-Lt.Col.M.M. Charteris.



#### INTEDIATE

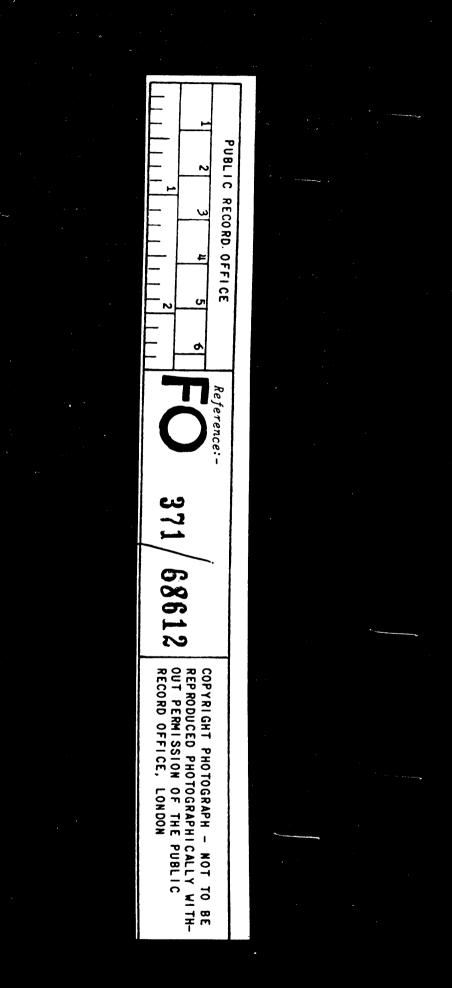
No.2536 secret.

Your telegram No.3430.

I should amplify my telegram No.2530 by adding that what I said at my press conference yesterday was that disturbances would tend to slow up the military (repeat military) withdrewal. I hope no statement will be made implying that disturbances with (?will intended) hasten the civil withdrewal, since this would merely encourage the Arabe.

Copies sent to:-

Foreign Office """(Mews Dept.) Wer Office (M.O.4.) - Mr. H. Beeley. - Mr. Fellowes. - Lt.Col. M.M. Charteris.



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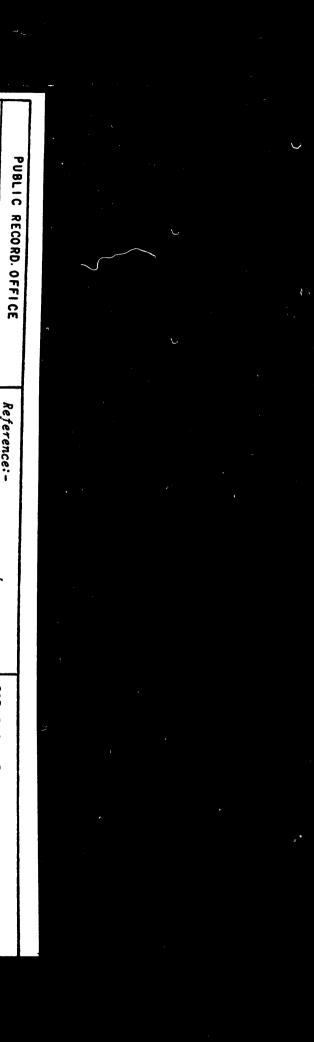
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 $\sim$ Ś # S J.G.S.Beith Esq., Foreign Office enter 50 E 9 Reference: 10. 75872/159/4/47. r : Mr. J. Contch With the comptiments Date 5th January 1948 284 E 371 JAN : 7 68612 COPYRIGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE REPRODUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH-OUT PERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON



The Church House, Great Smith Street, S.W. 1.

January, 1948.

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75872/159/4/47.

Dear newling

Would you refer to the revised draft directive to the officers to be appointed to exercise general supervision over the arrangements for removal and disposal of Services' stores from Palestine? There is one point which we should like to put on peeerd and that is that whilst what happens after the termination of the Mandate will of course not be the affair of the Colonial Office, at the present stage we see serious objections to the supply to meighbouring Arab States of warlike stores and equipment which might be used in operation against the Jews in Palestine. We assume that this aspect of the matter will be borne in mind in considering any recommendations from the Special officer and in the issue of any instructions by the Ministry of Defence. I addime that we shall be receiving copies of the directive in its final form ; we shall wish to send a copy to the High Commissioner

I am sending a copy of this letter to Beith at the Foreign Office.

Sid. (J. Gutch)

Yours sincentry

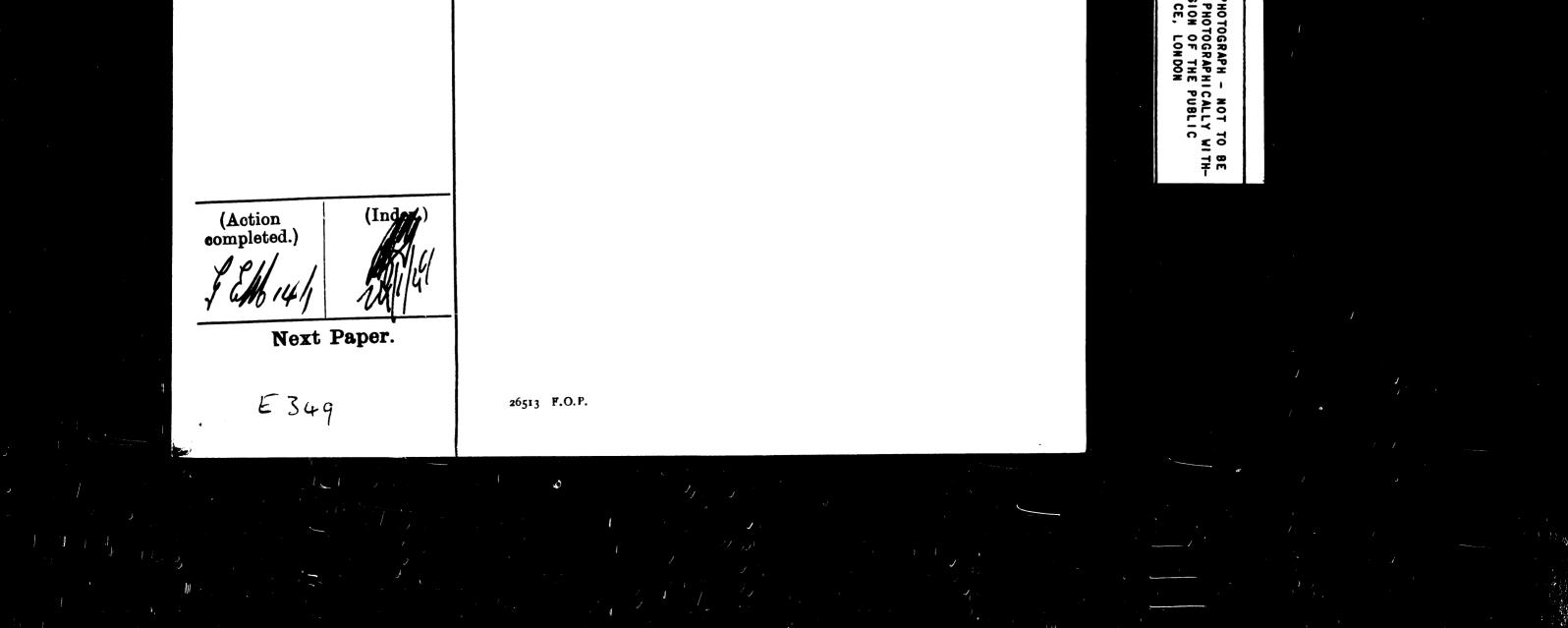
A.J. NEWLING, ESQ., CHE, MVO, TD. Ministry of Defence.

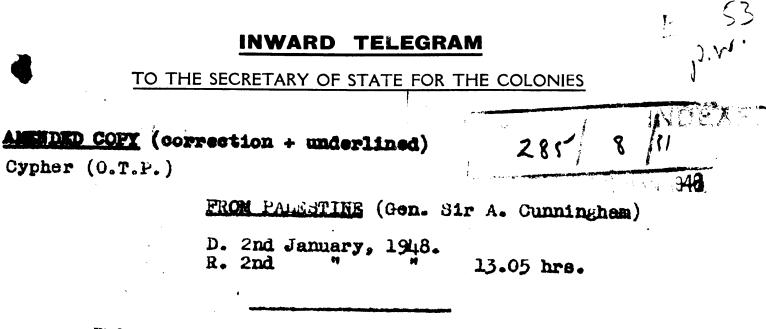
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IMPORTANT

No. 5 Secret

Local press carries an article from London by George Lichtheim suggesting differences between the Foreign Office and the (?Colonial Office) and **E reporting** that the former are "coupling strict neutrality with postponement of evacuation and even reconsideration of the terms of the Mandate's abrogation". Article goes on to suggest that policy of His Majesty's Government will be not (repeat not) actively to assist United Nations but rather to postpone evacuation and retain the Mandate for some further period and try to gain Arab and Jewish support for some fresh political settlement.

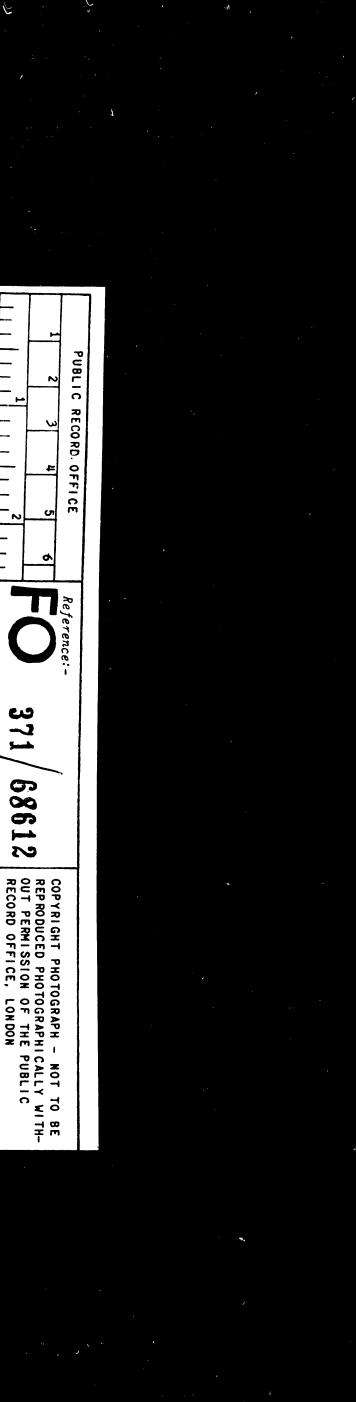
2. The line I shall take with regard to the insvitable local enquiries is that I have nothing to add to the various statements already made on the subject by His Majesty's Government. If, however, any change of existing policy is in fact contemplated, I shall be grate-ful if I may be informed.

+ Correction received 10th January.

Copies sent to:-

Foreign Office

- Mr. H. Boaley



#### INWARD TELEGRAM

TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES

Cypher (O.T.P.)

FROM PALESTINE (Gen. Sir 7A. dathingham) D. 2nd January, 1948. R. 2nd 13.05 hrs.

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IMPORTANT

No. 5 Secret

Local press carries an article from London by George Lichtheim suggesting differences between the Foreign Office and the (?Colonial Office) and suggesting that the former are "coupling strict neutrality with postponement of evacuation and even reconsideration of the terms of the Ma date's abrogation". Article goes on to suggest that policy of His Majesty's Government will be not (repeat not) actively to assist United Nations but rather to postpone evacuation and retain the Mandate for some further period and try to gain Arab and Jewish support for some fresh political settlement.

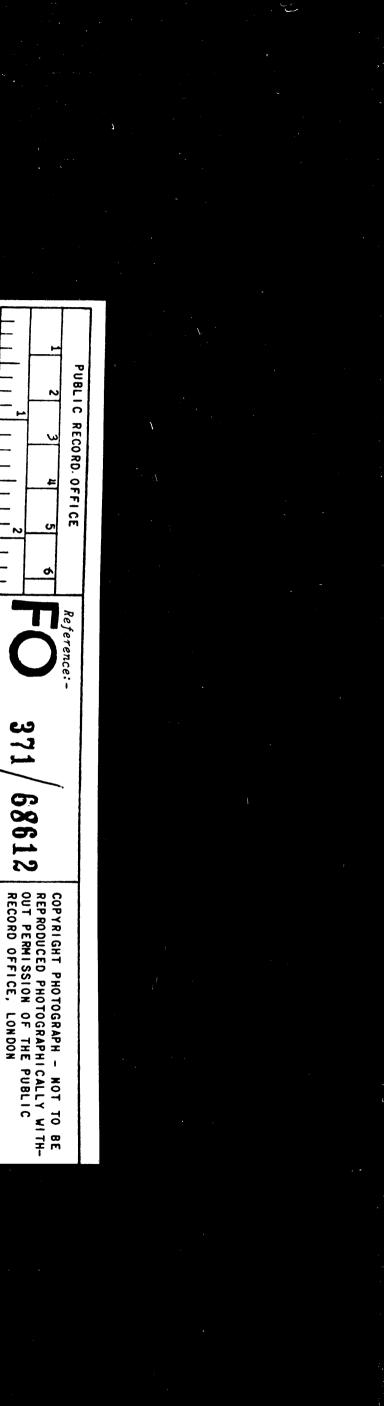
The line I shall take with regard to the 2. inevitable local enquiries is that I have nothing to add to the various statements already made on the subject by His Majesty's Government. If, however, any change of existing policy is in fact contemplated, I shall be grate-ful if I may be informed.

+ Corrupt group - correction being obtained.

Copies sent to:-

Foreign Office

- Mr. H. Beeley



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OUTWARD TELEGRAM Entr

### 75872/159/47

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Cypher (0.T.P.)

### TO PALESTINE (Gen. Sir A. Cunningham) Sent 3rd January, 1948. 22.00 hrs.

#### IMPORTANT

No. 29 Secret.

Your telegram No. 5.

Lichtheim Article.

I approve line you propose to take. There is no truth in any suggestion that Foreign Office favour extension of period of Mandate.

Coppy sent to :-

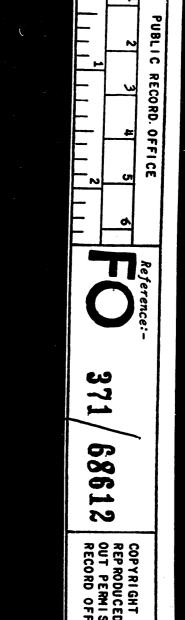
Foreign Office - Mr. H. Beeley.



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雨に 56 E 349 E PALESTINE 1948 8 JAN Polylint; H.M. G. Withdrawal Policy Registry E349/8/31 Number E349/8/31 Report Aropport hauthi filter & RR barson of ian 2 (E12281/957/31) refuming to four of Roder lit 10170 FROM E.P. Donaldron Die. New ausel material from War office war live 4. Magachile transits text CAT 5020- 48 PUBLIC No. L'annal Pino 4 Dated tal human of proposed reply to lara 1. RECORD. OFFICE Received in Registry) 6 san χ Last Paper.. 1228/ 917/}/ 47 (Minutes.) Doat repty submitted Mrs Juins Jans 285 References. rence 371 HO tan 12 (Print.) 68612 (How disposed of.) Dift, M' Donaldson. 6.R.O, from " fursour . Jan. 12 (Action completed.) (Index.) Next Paper. E357 26513 F.O.P.



Commonwealth Relations Office, Downing Street, London, S.W.1. JAN 5 6th January, 1948. Ext. 5025/48

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## Dear Bunows,

You will have seen a copy of Trafford Smith's letter to Curson of 2nd January suggesting a reply to paragraph 3 of the Government of India's telegram about our withdrawal from Palestine. (No 10170 721 Dec) War

We will now await material from the Fernign Office to enable us to answer paragraph 4 of the telegram, but think that we should send some reply to paragraph 2.

If you agree, perhaps this might be to the effect that we should be grateful if the Government of India could instruct its representative at the United Nations to co-operate with Sir A. Cadogan in working out the plans of the United Nations Commission, and urge that they should not arrive in Palestine before we are ready to hand over.

I am sending a copy of this letter to Trafford Smith at the Colonial Office and Charteris at the War Office.

Jour sinc

B.A.B. Burrows, Esq., Foreign Office, London, S.W.1.

Registry 2.349/8/31. Sth January, 1948. Top Secres. Dear Donaldson, J.G.S.B. Confidential. **Dr**ift CNG Mr. Donaldson, Commonwealth Relations Office about Palestine. 2 1: From: Mr. Burrows. MARGIN. THIS Z WRITTEN hub B.S. Beins tand BE 10 NOTHING RECEIVED IN E HON. U JAN 1948 10/ Y 🕈 🕷 The second Gp.68!

K STATISTICS

Please refer to your letter of January 6th asking for our views on the reply to be returned to paragraph 2 of the Government of India's telegram No. 10710 of December 21st.

We agree with the line suggested in the penultimate paragraph of your letter, except that there is not likely to be much dil for co-operation between the Indian representative at the United Nations and Sir A. Cadosan in working out the plan of the U.N. Commission, as India is not a member of the Commission nor a member of the Security Council. Nevertheless anything the Indian representative may be able to do in explaining the United Kingdom point of view after consultation with sir A. Cadogan will be valuable. Our main object is to complete the withdraw of our troops and administration as rapidly and smoothly as possible, and at the same time to avoid any friction with the United Nations Commission or the United Nations as a whole.

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Yours sincerely

(Sept.) B. A. B. Runon's.



OUTFILE

FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W. 1.

59

18th January, 1948.

(E 549/8/31)

CONFIDENTIAL.

Jean Donaldson, Please refer to your letter of the 6th January asking for our views on the reply to be returned to paragraph 2 of the Government of India's telegram No. 10710 of the 21st December about Palestine.

We magnee generally with the line suggested in the penultimate paragraph of your letter except that there is not likely to be much opportunity for co-operation between the Indian representative at the United Nations and Sir Alexander Gadogan in working out the plan of the United Nations Commission, as India is not a member of the Commission nor a member of the Security Council. Nevertheless anything the Indian representative may be able to do in explaining the United Kingdom point of view after consultation with Sir Alexander Cadogan will be valuable. Our main object is to complete the withdrawal of our troops and edministration as rapidly and macothly as possible, and at the same time to avoid any friction with the United Nations Commission or the United Nations as a whole.

Yours sincerely

(Sqd.) (B.A.B. Burrows)

E.P. Donaldson, Esq., C.M.G., Commonwealth Relations Office.

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### PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE

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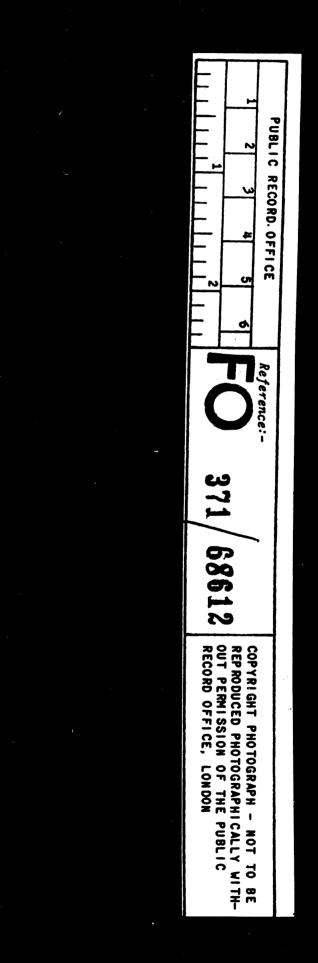
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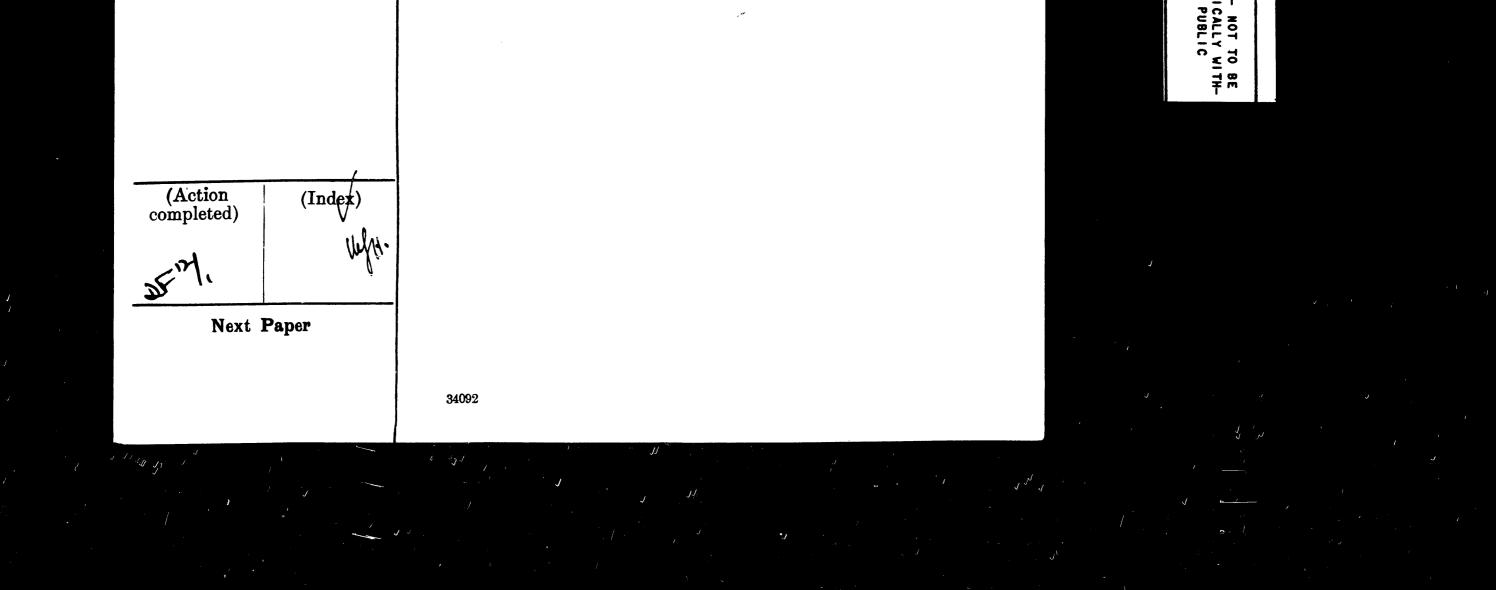
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# OUTWARD TELEGRAM E400

Cypher (0.T.P.)

TO PALESTINE (General Sir A. Cunningham) FROM S. OF S., COLONIES.

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Sent 5th Jamary, 1948. 21.30 hrs.

#### MOST IMMEDIATE

No., 44 Top Secret and Personal.

I have now had an opportunity of seeing Fletcher Cooke and hearing from him the line you would be likely to take if eaked to give your reaction to a proposal to withdraw the Civil Administration and terminate the Mandate at an earlier date than 15th May. In view of the recent developments, Ministers here have been feeling increasingly that it would be difficult for effective administration to be maintained for so long a period in the Government are becoming increasingly unable to discharge their responsibilities for law and order throughout the

My understanding has been that your advocacy of continued Civil Administration for the full period up to 15th May derived largely from the desirability of which we have all been aware for the maximum possible assistance to be given by the Civil Administration to the Military in their evacuation of personnel and stores, and also to provide a reasonable period of time during which the United Nations Commission might make its arrangements for an orderly assumption of authority after due preparation.

It is now becoming clear that circumstances are unlikely to permit the implementation of this programme, based as it was on the assumption that the Araba would produce no strong reaction until the United Nations Commission had arrived/ arrived, and that the security situation would thus be manageable until then. However long the United Nations Commission have to propare there can now be very little prospect of an orderly hand-over of the administrative machine to them, and therefore the argument on that ground for maintaining the Mandatory Administration as long as possible now ceases to be valid. As regards the argument that continuation of Civil Administration until 15th May is essential to the Military programme, I should be glad to know whether in view of the changed security situation opinion in Palestine has in any way shifted on this issue.

A meeting of the Official Committee on Palestine on Wednesday afternoon is likely to consider whether H.M.G. should not now revise its policy with a view to withdrawai of the Civil Government and termination of the Mandate on 1st April, notwithstanding the very serious difficulties such a decision Transport, especially from the point of view of redeployment and shipping. For the purposes of this meeting, I should be present position with above factors in mind in consultation with the Military as far as possible.

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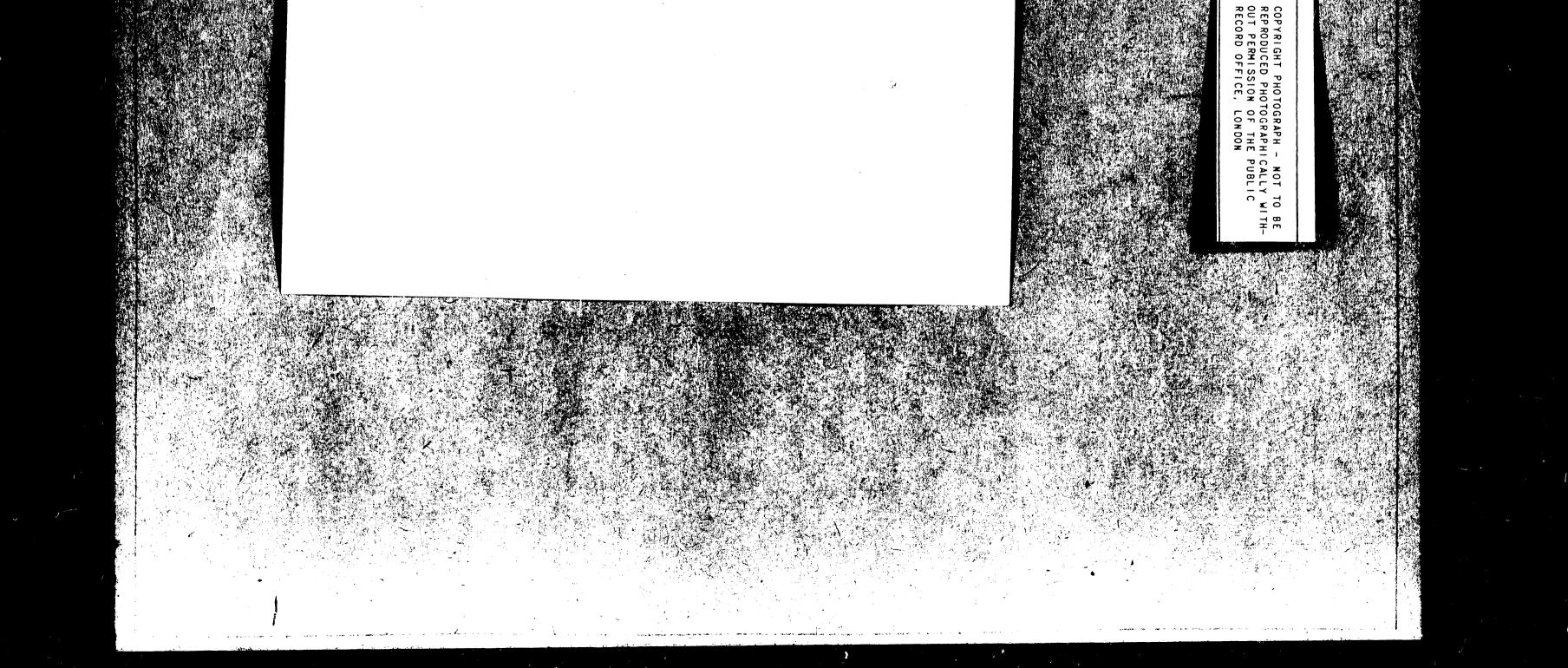
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# OUTWARD TELEGRAM

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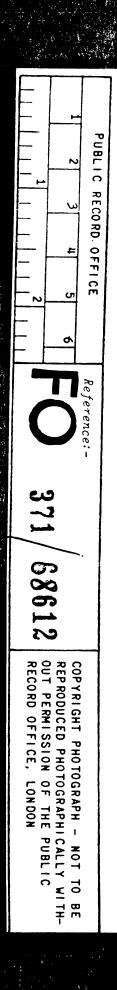
R. 243 Secretary of State Sir T. Lloyd Mr. Recs-Williams Sir S. Caine Sir C. Jeffrica Mr. Holding Mr. Martin Hr. Frafford Smith Mr. Gutch Mr. Mathreson Mr. Higham Mr. Galsworthy Mr. Holmer Mr. Dalo Cabinet Offices 72 18 Ministry of Defence Treasury 11 Admiralty 12 War Office 17 11 17  $(M_{0}, 0, 4_{0})$ 11 Ministry of Transport Air Ministry 11 11 Foreign Office 11 11 11 11

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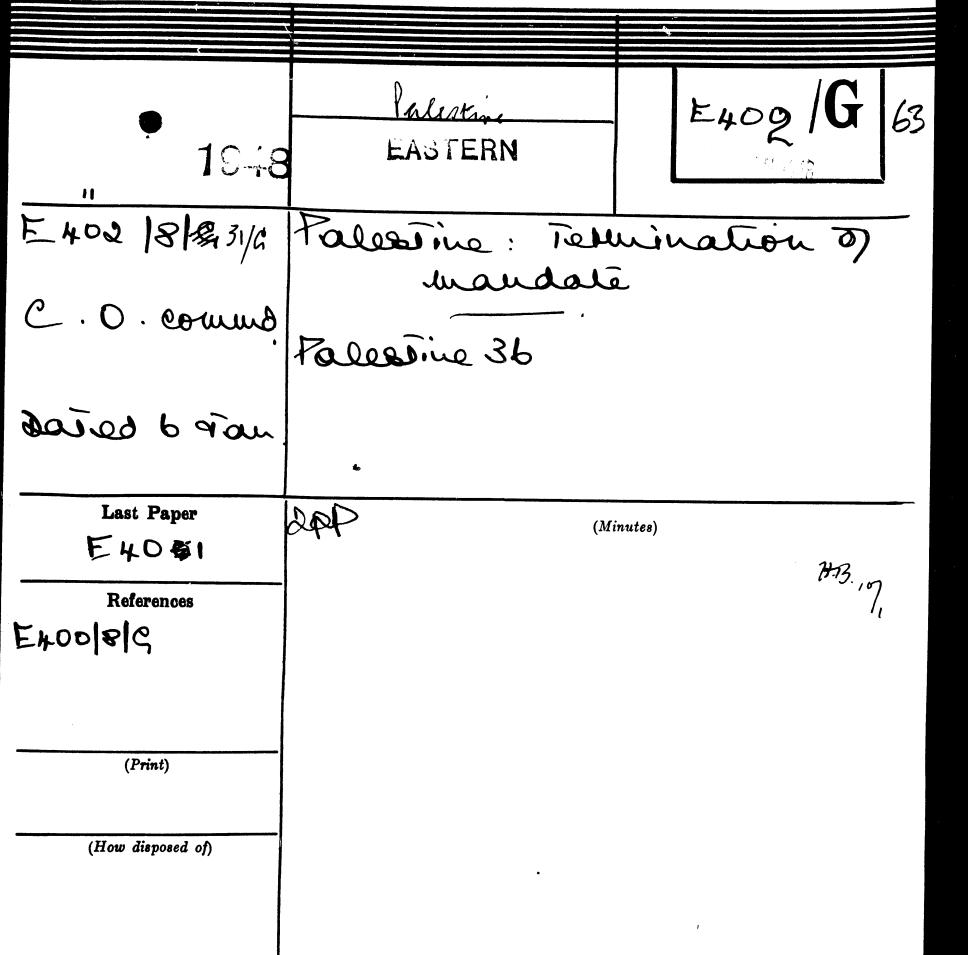
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Mr. S.E.V. Luke. æ Brig. Cornwall-Jones. Compander Evershed, R.N. Mr. A.J. Newling. Mr. D.F.C. Blunt. Mr. W. Russell-Edmunds. Mr. P.N.N. Synnott. Capt. Maunsell. Capt. D. H. Hall-Thompson. Mr. G.C.B. Dodds. Brig. J.R.C. Hamilton. Brig. L. L. Wansbrough Jonss, Lt. Col. Charteris. Mr. B.F. Picknett. Mr. F.C. Rennie. Air Commodore Brook. Group Capt. V.H.B. Roth. Mr. B.A.B. Burrows. Mr. H. Boeley. Mr. J.G.S. Beith. Mr. J.C. Robertson.

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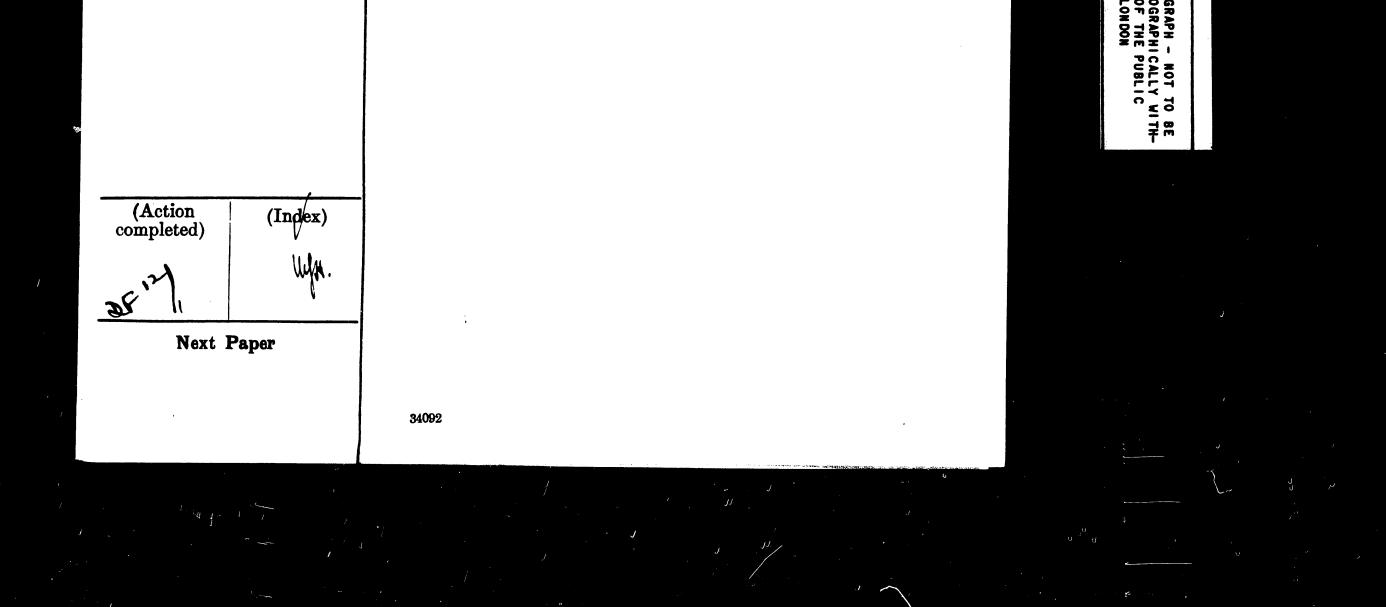






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INWARD TELEGRAM

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Cypher (0.T. C.

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9 JAN 1948

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FROM PALISTON (General Sir A. Cuuninghem)

TO S. OF S., COLONIAS.

D.6th January, 1948. R.6th. " 22.55 hrs.

### MOST IMMEDIATE

No. 36 Top Secret and Personal.

Your telegram No. 44.

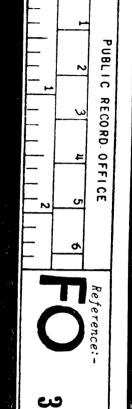
Your telegram accurately sets out our reasons for mandate on 15th May.

2. In so far as present security situation is concerned it seems most unlikely that it will improve, although it cannot still in the country. I feel bound to say however that if Jews continue in their policy of blowing up innocent Arabs, now sponsored by Hagana, it seems probable that position will worsen. I cannot say in this case that we will not be able to extricate ourselves, although it will become increasingly difficult. Civil be said to be wholly effective. Therefore if position of Administration was the only factor to be considered then I would say that the sooner it closed the better.

3. There are however questions of U.N.O. Commission, she military withdrawal and position of Jerusslem. On matter of the Commission it is not quite accurate to say that we cannot hand over to it, although it is certain now that having taken over they will not be able to carry out effective central administration. I have of course no information 28 to the objective of their plans.

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Up to the present it seems that pressure is being put on them to some out to Palestine almost at ones. It is possible however that once they have become (?selzed) with their problem they will realize that they have all too soon little time before lat May to propere themselves. If they were to ask us to stay until 15th May a refusal would be awkward for

Concerning military withdrawel, the General Officer 40 Commanding tells me that he could be in a position to se straight to phase 2 of plan by let April with some shipping and I understand that all stores will have been moved by then to Rafa or Haifa. The disadvantages of this Plan from Army point of view are that they would be left without contral administration at a time when they would be occupying a large eres as compared with Haifs enclave, and there would be greater difficulties in disposing of stores and camps, have not been in a position to discuss this with Commander-in-Chief but I have no doubt that these disadvantages will weigh heavily with him, unless it is found possible also to make the final date of Army withdrawal 6 wooks carlior,

In so far as Jerusalom is conversed I feel it cannot he left withous protection and that we should not leave until some arrangement has been made by Prusteeship Council for security of the City.

Taking all these factors into account, I feel, 6. therefore, that given sefety of Jerusalon, if the Communition wish to come out carlier, we should not resist its arrival on or after 15th March on which case the Mandate sould terminate on ist Applia

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### INWARD TELEGRAM

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R.243 Scoretary of State Sir T. Lloyd Mr. Rees Williams Sir 8. Caine Sir C. Jeffries Mr. Holding Mr. Martin Cabingt Offices 9 W 14 54 Ministry of Defence Treasury Admiral ty 59 20 29 War Office \*\* 1 " (N. Cotto) 95 Hinistry of Trensport Air strictry

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M. I. 5.

Mr. Trafford Smith Mr. Gutoh Mr. Mathieson Mr. Higham Mr. Galsworthy Mr. Holmer Mr. Dale Mr. S.E.V. Luke. Brig. Cornwall-Jones. Commander Evershed. Mr. A.J. Newling. Mr. D.F.C. Blunt. Mr. W. Russell-Edminds. Mr. P.N.N. Synnotte Captain Mannaell. Captain D.H. Hall-Thompson. Mr. G.C.B. Dodds. Brig. J.R.C. Hamilton. Erig. L.L. Wansbrough-Jones. Lt.Col. Charteris. Mr. B.F. Ficknett. Mr. F.C. Hennie. Air Connocore Brook, Group Captain V.H.B. Roth. MP. S.A. E. BUTTONS. he He Magley. Mr. J.G.S. Reith. Pr. J.C. Robertson.

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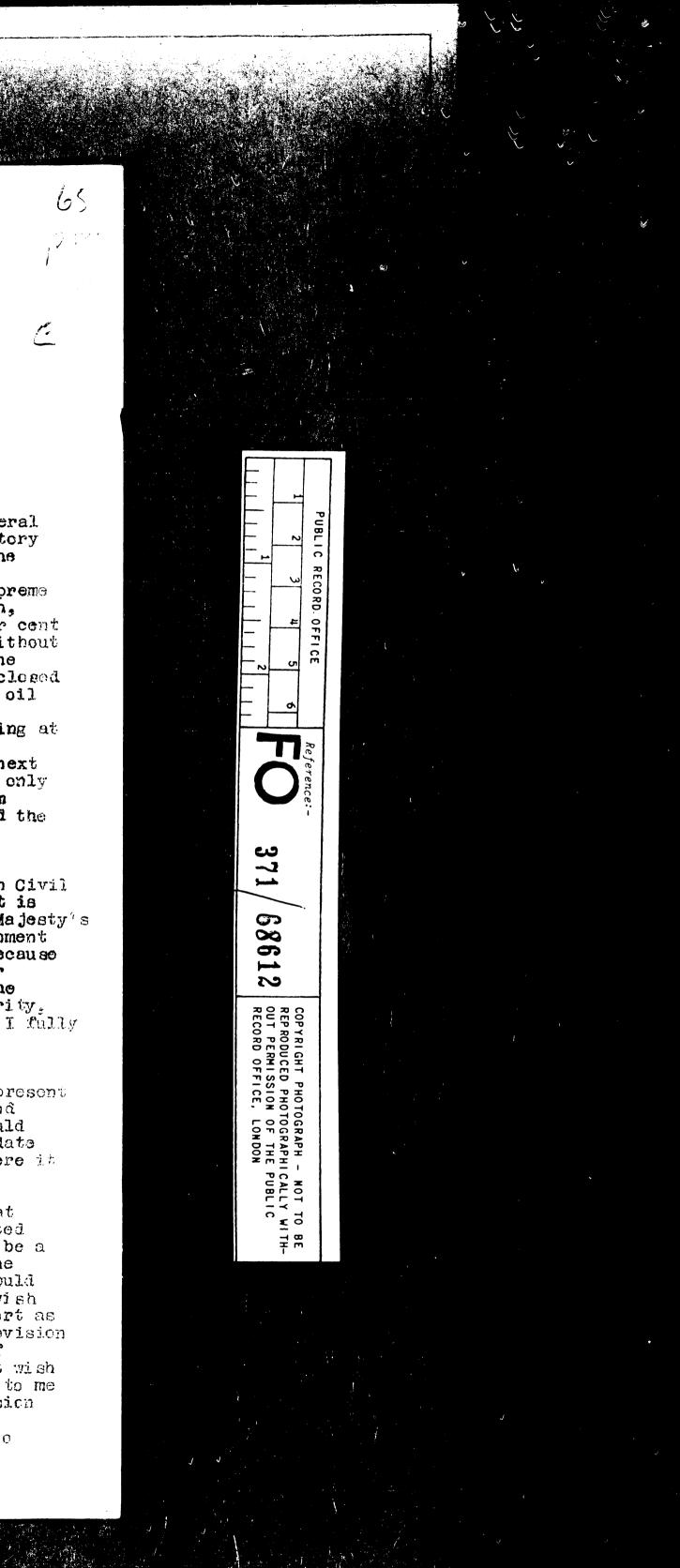
The Colonial Office were invited by the Official Committee on Falestine to obtain further information from the High Commissioner about certain points in Falestine telegram No. 36. The following extracts from the High Commissioner's reply are circulated for information:

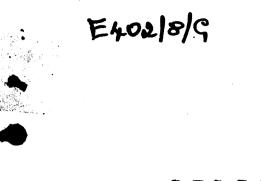
From the Service point of view solely, general Socurity situation is at present reasonably satisfactory in that Security matters have not got out of hand. The position would be no doubt reported as such through Military channels. Yet from the civil angle, the Supreme Court and Assizes have been unable to sit for a month, the General Post Office is closed and about fifty per cent of the 32 departments of this Government have been without staffs, either wholly or intermittently, for about the same period. The Consolidated Refineries, Ltd., is closed and we have only one month's supply of some sorts of oil fuel in the country. These are only some of the disabilities from which the Administration is suffering at the moment. We are doing our best to restore this situation and hope to do so, at least partially, by next week but, in any circumstances, Civil Government can only limp along from now on. I cannot either refrain from mentioning the steady toll of lives in the Police and the Army quite apart from daily murderous attacks of one community against the other.

2. We will of course do our utmost to maintain Civil Administration for as long as it is essential, but it is necessary for its situation to be recognised by His Majesty's Government. There is no question of the Civil Government running out and leaving the Army in the lurch just because there are some extra bombs and bullets. The case for closing down Civil Administration earlier reats in the (?sphere of) sever diminution of functions and authority, but, as I said in my immediately preceding telegram, I fully recognise the other factors bearing on question of termination of the Mandate.

3. I have now had opportunity to discuss the present position with the Commander-in-Chief, Middle East Land Forces, who is telegraphing to the effect that he would not oppose a plan for earlier termination of the Mandate on the lines of paragraph 4 of my telegram No. 36, were it decided upon.

Regarding Military stores, I understand that 4.5 all moves of stores to Rafa and Haifa will be completed by the and of February and thereafter it will merely be a question of clearing them from these two places. The Commandor-in-Chief told me that, in his view, this could not be done before 1st August. Nuturally, the Army wish period during which they are left on their own as short as possible, and as you mentioned the possibility of provision of more shipping, 2 also mentioned the possibility of reducing time the Army were to remain here. I do not wish to enter the Army's sphere, but it has always seemed to me possible to have some urangement with U.N.O. Commission that any stores we are forced to leave behind in the Jewish State would be safeguarded until we are able to remove them.





SECRET

### The attached extract from Palestine

Mare

telegram No. 53 is circulated in substitution of the earlier version, which was given no security classification and should be destroyed.

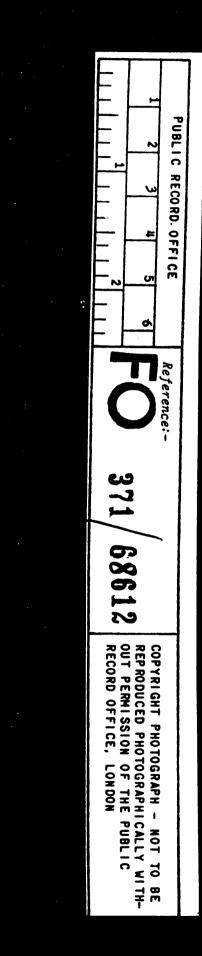
> Colonial Office, Church House.

> > 22nd January, 1948.

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#### INWARD TELEGRAM

TO THE SECRETARY

The Colonial Office were invited by the Official Committee on Palestine to obtain further information from the High Commissioner about certain points in Palestine telegram No. 36.

aPalestine telegram No. 53. Commissioner's reply m are circulated for information. From the Service point of view solely,

The following extracts from the High

general Security situation is at present reasonably satisfactory in that Security matters have not got out of hand. The position would be no doubt reported as such through Military channels. Yet from the civil angle, the Supreme Court and Assizes have been unable to sit for a month, the General Post Office is closed and about fifty per cent of the 32 departments of this Government have been without staffs, either wholly or intermittently, for about the same period. The Consolidated Refineries, Ltd., is closed and we have only one month's supply of some sorts of oil fuel in the country. These are only some of the disabilities from which the Administration is suffering at the moment. We are doing our best to restore this situation and hope to do so, at least partially, by next week but, in any circumstances, Civil Government can only limp along from now on. I cannot either refrain from mentioning the steady toll of lives in the Police and the Army quite apart from deily murderous attacks of one community against the other.

2. We will of course do our utmost to maintain Civil Administration for as long as it is essential, but it is necessary for its situation to be recognised by His Majesty's Government. There is no question of the Civil Government running out and leaving the Army in the lurch just because there are some extra bombs and bullets. The case for closing down Civil Administration sarlier rests in the (?sphere of) severe diminution of functions and authority, but, as I said in my immediately preceding telegram, I fully recognise the other factors bearing on question of termination of the Mandate.

3. I have now had opportunity to discuss the present position with the Commander-in-Chief, Middle East Land Forces, who is telegraphing to the effect that he would not oppose a plan for earlier termination of the Mandate on the lines of paragraph 4 of my telegram No.36, were it decided upon.

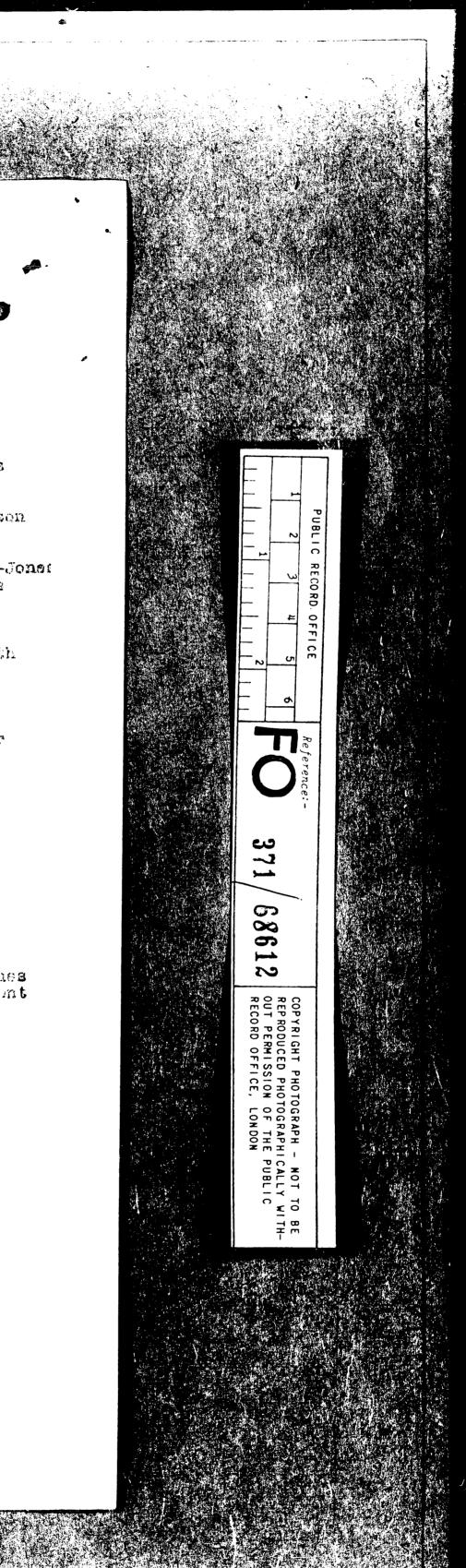
4. Regarding Military stores, I understand that all moves of stores to Rafa and Haifa will be completed by the end of February and thereafter it will merely be a question of clearing them from those two places. The Commander-in-Chief told me that, in his visw, this could not be done before let August. Naturally, the Army wish period during which they are left on their own as short as possible, and as you mentioned the possibility of provision of more shipping, I also mentioned the possibility of reducing time the Army were to remain here. I do not wish to enter the Army's sphere, but it has always seemed to me possible to have some arrangement with U.N.O. Commission that any stores we are forced to leave behind in the Jewish State would be safeguarded until we are able to remove them.

/Copies

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Sopies sent to:-		•
Cabinet Offices		Mr. S.E.V. Luke Brig. Cormall-Jones
<b>79</b> <del>11</del>		Lt.Col. Sherman
Ministry of Defence	***	Mr. A.J. Newling
H H (1	L.T.S.) ~	Major Gobbett
Treasury		Mr. D.F.C. Blunt
R Standar (		Mr. W. Russell-Edmunds
Admiral ty		Mr. P.N.N. Symoott
Jr Jr		Capt. Naunzell
<b>?</b> ?	<b>e</b> ra	Capt. D.H. Hall-Thompson
98		Mr. G.C.B. Dodds
War Office		Brig. J.R.C. Hamilton
19 11		Brig. L.L. Wanabrough-Jo
77 19 (温。()。4)		ht.Col. M.M. Charteris
Ministry of Transport		Mr. B.F. Picknett
ft ft		Mr. F.C. Ronnie
Air Ministry		Air Commodore Brook
<b>1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1</b>		Group Capt, V.H.B. Roth
Foreign Office		Mr. B.A.B. Burrows
79 FF 97 74		Mr. H. Booley
		Mr. J.G.S. Belth
M. I. 5	6 B <b> </b> ~	Ar. J.C. Rebertson P.S. to Prime Minister
No. 10 Downing Street		And and the Constant in the second and the second a
Lord President	1 619 L	Private Scoretary Private Secretary
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11 11	/ <b></b>	Sir H. Wilson Smith
Commonwealth Relations	3	
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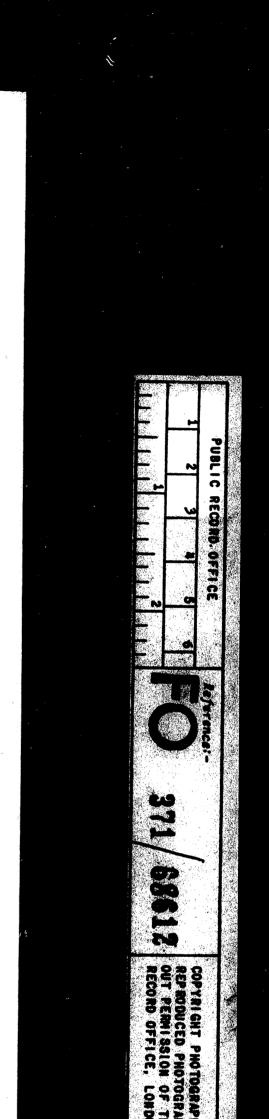
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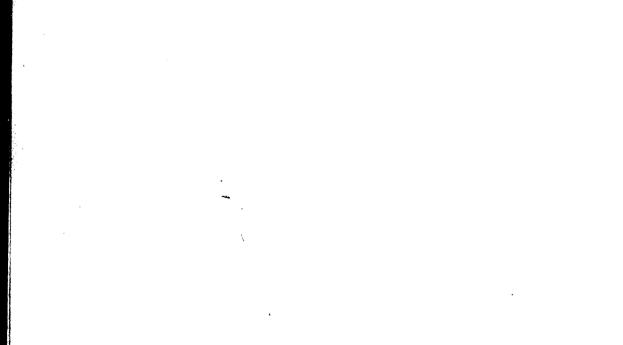
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### **INWARD TELEGRAM**

TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLO	NIES	
Cypher (O.T.L)	E	: 49
FROM PALESTINE (Gen. Sir A. Cunninghe	m)	
D. 8th January, 1948. R. 8th " " 14.10 hrs.	17	JAN

Ro.29 Staff Secret.

Your telegram No.23

I agree with your proposals.

2. Foreign Office starf should arrive about one month before the termination of the Mandates

I recommend temporary attachment to the Minister 3. of J.G.T. Sheringham and J.B. Pruen. Both these officers have applied for this duty and both wish to continue ultimately to serve somewhere in the Middle Esst. Sheringha was appointed to this Government in 1939. He speaks reads and writes Arabic and Helmow fluently: has had experience in district administration and income tax, and is now in the Political Branch of the Secretariat. Fruan was first appointed to this dovernment in 1946, but he has ten years experience of the Middle Mast, mostly in the Army during the war. He has taken a course at the grab Centre, speaks reads and writes Arabic well, has had some experience in district administration and is now serving in the Political Branch of the Secretariat and as Clark to the Executive Council. I can thoroughly recommend both these officers to assist the Minister in Jerusalem.

4. I should, however, make it clear that all staff continuing to serve in Palestina after 15th May will be based on daife enclove and not in Jergeales.

5. With regard to seconmodation, permanent accomponent tion in Maifa will be difficult to arrange until the Army's withdrawal has been completed. Temporary nucleased there could however be arranged on the Consul Constant there could however be arranged on the Consul Constant arrival. In Jerveslem I suggest that the G.O.C.'s house, which is requisitioned property, and the Chief Secretary's house, which is a hiring furnished by Government, should be taken over. The pegotiations of leases for these properties will take some time and I shall therefore he grateful if you will lat re know as soon as possible whether the Foreign Office wish to avail themselves of them.

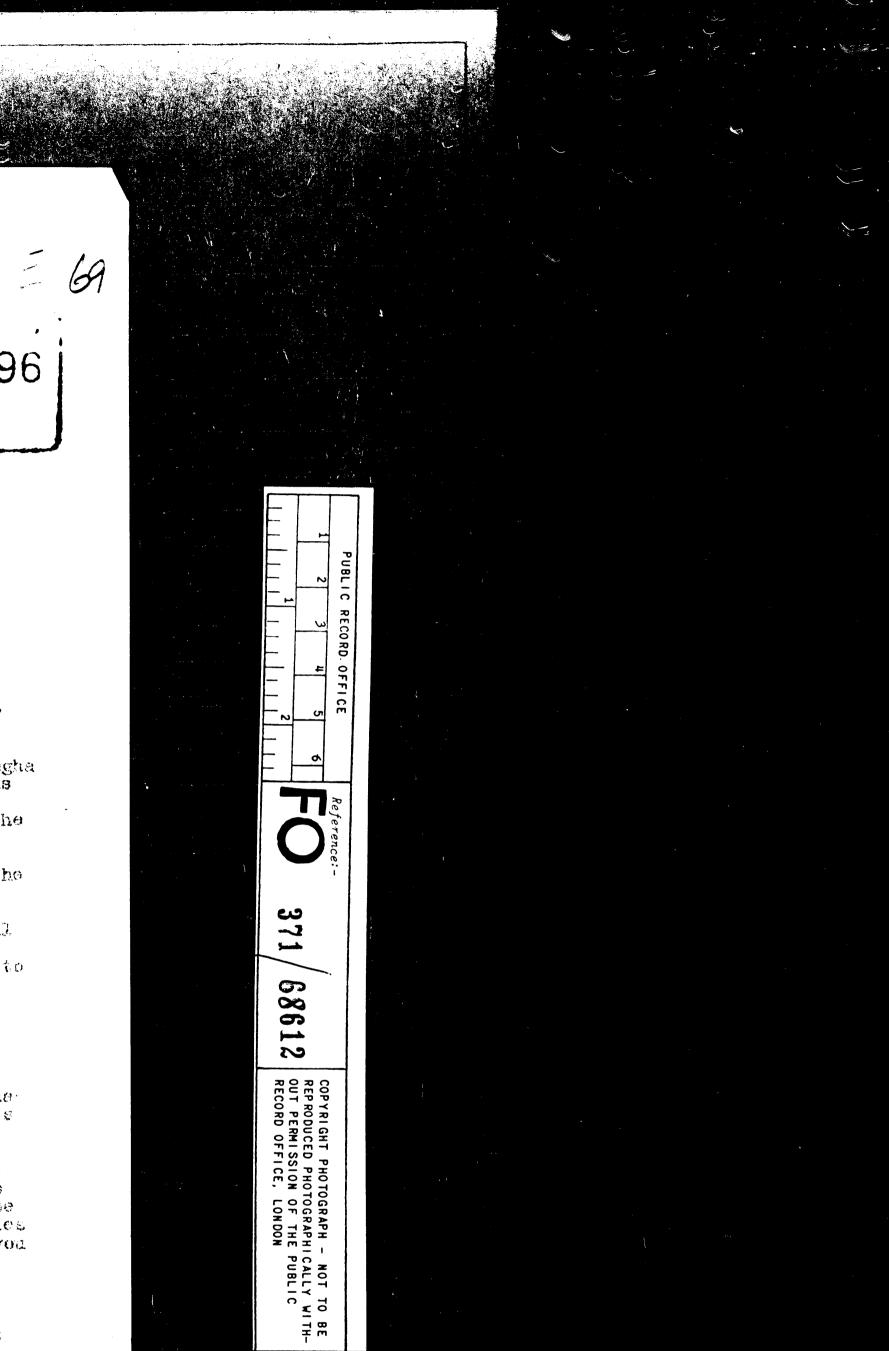
6. The Minister in Jerusalem will require a British guard. The U.S. Consul General is arking his Government for a guard of 110 U.S. Marines, as reported in my secret talegrow Mo.2532 of 31st December, 1947. In Heifa the guard would be assumed by the Army until the military evacuation has been completed.

#### Copies sent bol-

Foreign Office War Office (M.C.4

Cabinet Offices

- Mr. Cablo - Mr. Carmer - L. Col. S.M. Charteris - Chur. F. Swershed, R.M.



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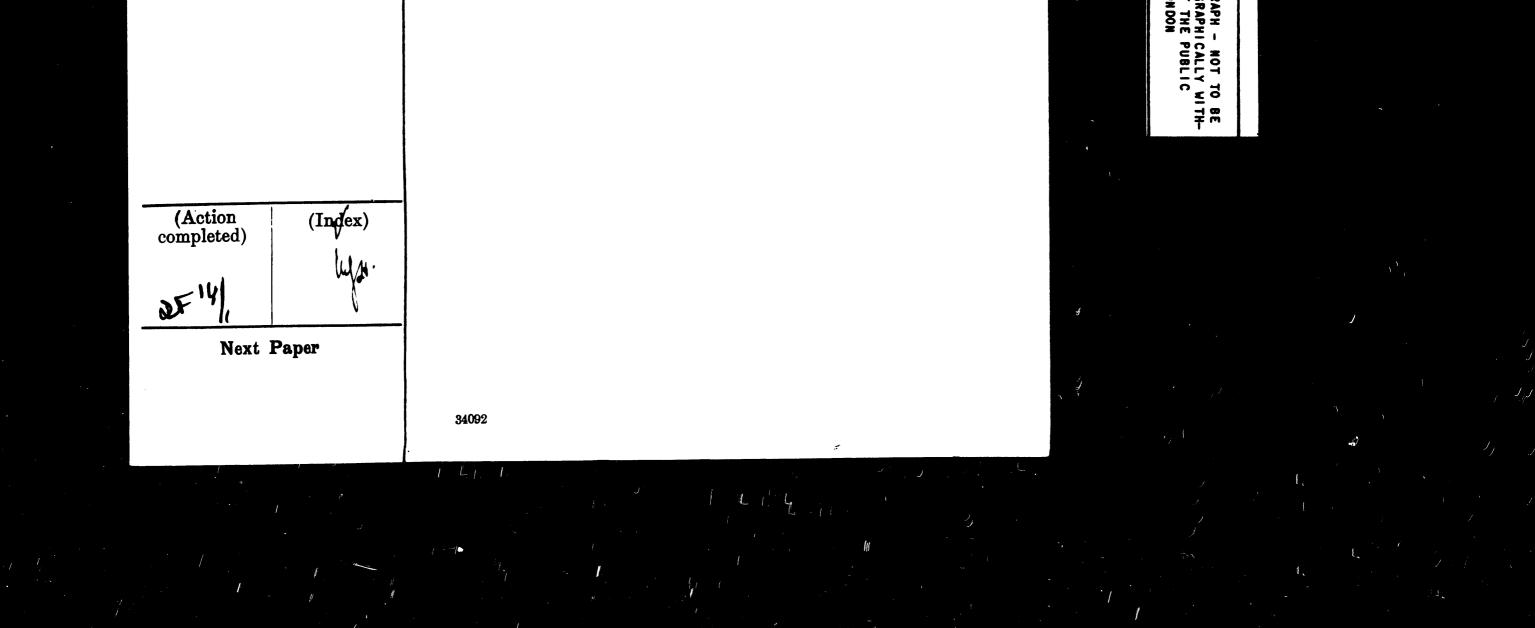
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12th January, 1948.

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Dear Drelay

After consultation with the Chiefs of Staff Secretariat, I have revised Higham's draft letter about the question of bringing forward the date of the termination of the Mandate in Palestine. I think that at this stage it is not advisable to enter into detailed arguments about the reasons why the Colonial Office and Foreign Office consider that the time has come to review the approved evacuation scheme. I presume that, when the Chiefs of Staff consider the letter, representatives of the two Departments are likely to be invited to be present.

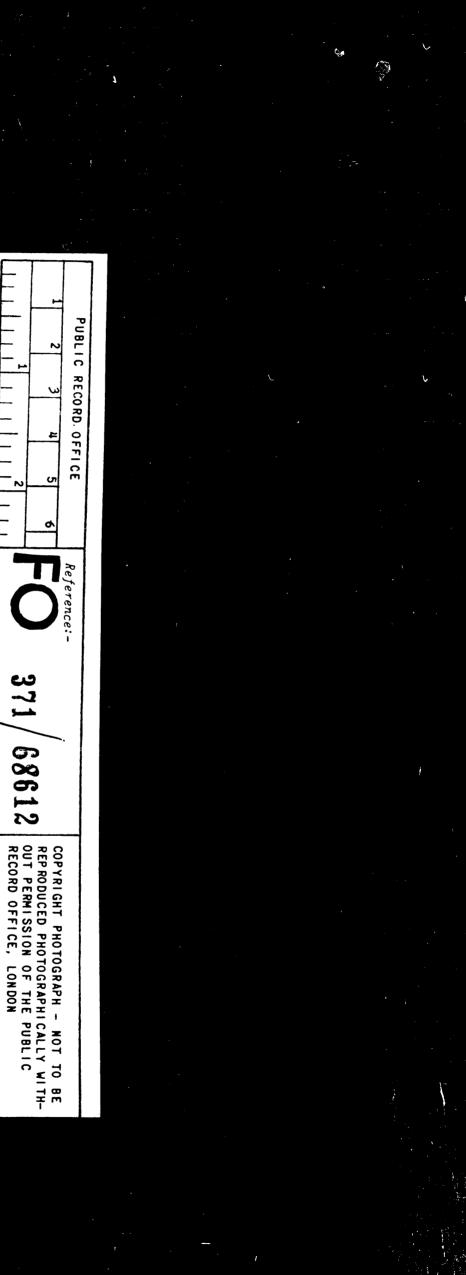
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I enclose a redraft, and should be grateful if you could let me have your comments on it, by telephone, not later than 6.30 p.m. tonight. I have promised Stapleton that I will let him have the letter by 7 p.m.

I am writing similarly to Martin, Colonial Office.

Then Ancerely Liv Luti

H. Beeley, Esq., C.B.E., Foreign Office.



### SECRET

At the last meeting of the Official Committee on Palestine the representatives of the Colonial Office and the Foreign Office, on the instructions of their Ministers, proposed that the decision to terminate the Mandate on 15th May should be reviewed in the light of developments since the plan of evacuation was approved at the end of November by the Defence Committee and the Cabinet.

It was made clear to the Defence Committee at the time (D. 0. (47) 91, paragraph 14) that there were certain factors, such as a serious deterioration in the internal security position in Palestine, which might in any event make it necessary to change over from Plan A to Plan B at an intermediate stage. The two Departments recognise that the military evacuation scheme has so far worked smoothly; they nevertheless consider that there are now strong political grounds for reconsidering our policy. Briefly, their argument is that certain of the assumptions on which Plan A was adopted have in the event proved to be false. It was, for instance, assumed that the Arabs would honour the undertaking given by the Arab Higher Committee to refrain from aggressive action until we had withdrawn. On the other side, the Jews have pursued an unexpectedly provocative policy. The result

has been that the maintenance of internal security and the continuance of essential services has proved a far harder task than had been anticipated. It has, in fact, become a task beyond the resources of the Administration. The civil authority has wholly ceased to be effective over substantial areas of the country. We are now no more than one of several contending powers in Palestine, and in consequence we are failing to provide even the minimum of security or essential services for the individual citizen.

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The two Departments are seriously concerned at the prospect of the continuance of this situation for a further four months, and they asked that the pessibility should be examined whether the termination of the Mandate might be brought forward to some earlier date, say 1st April. The Official Committee feel, however, that the Defence Committee could not usefully be asked to consider this question in the absence of an approximate estimate of the cost in stores which such a change of plan would involve. I was therefore asked to ascertain whether the Chiefs of Staff would be prepared to ask the Commanders-in-Chief, Middle East, for this information, and for an indication of any other military factors which Ministers ought to take into account at the same time.

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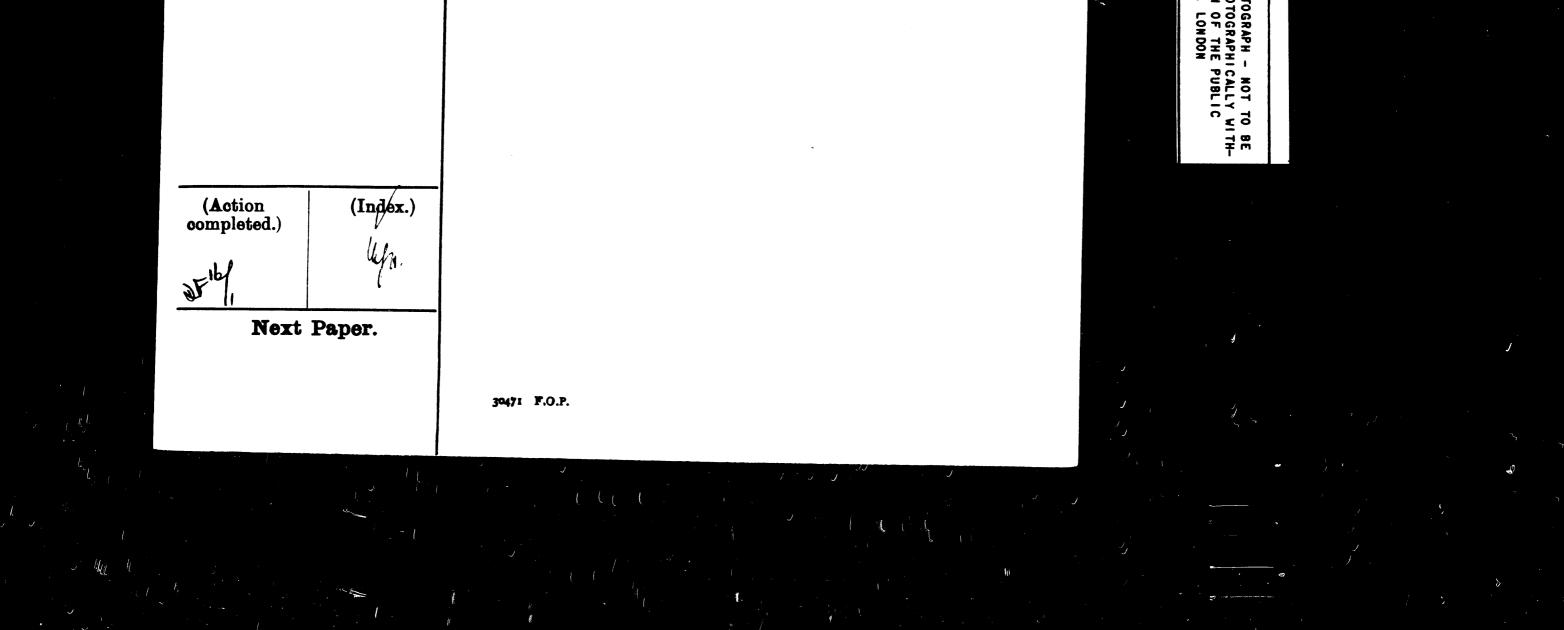
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Mr. Roberts

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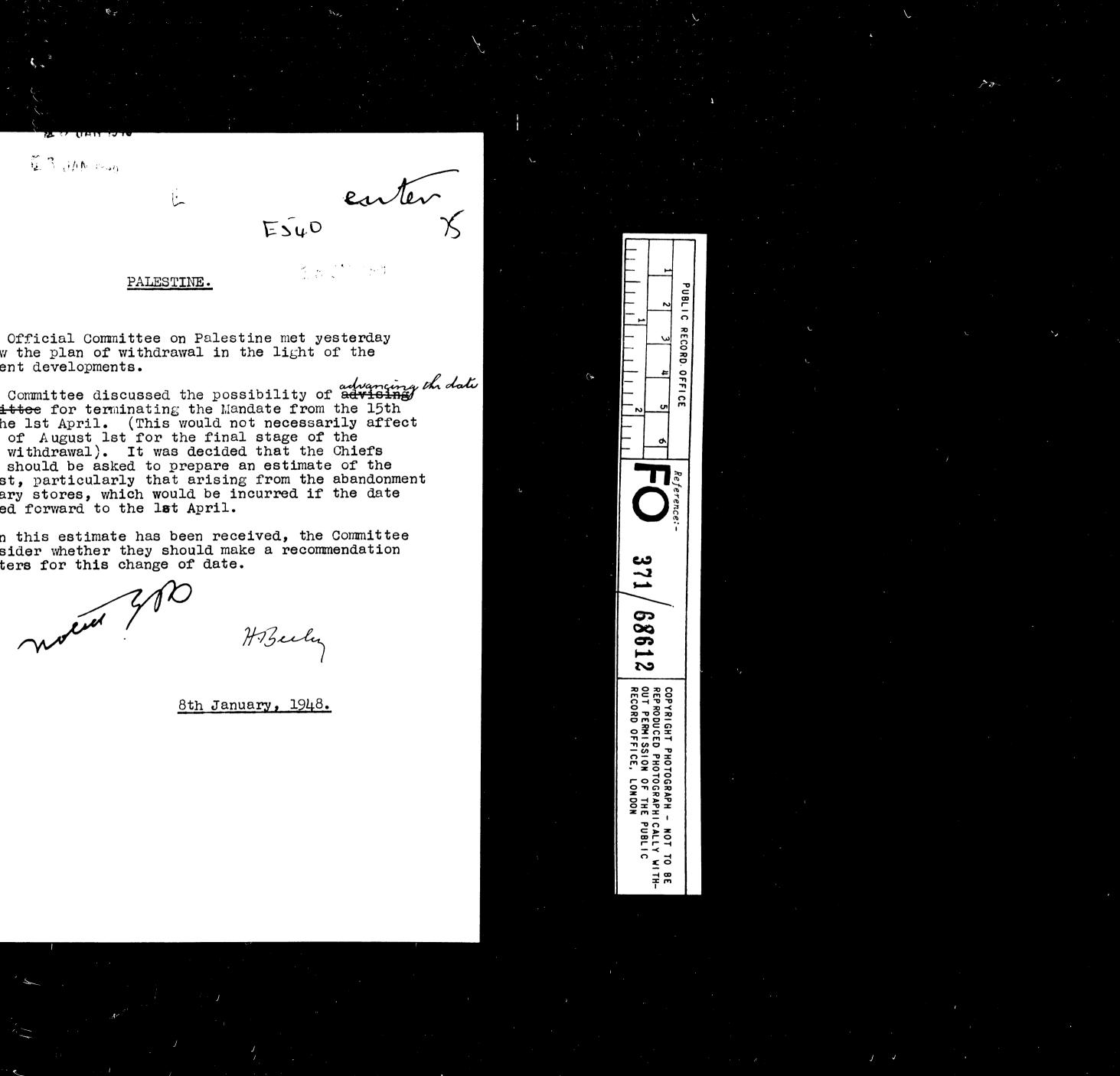
The Official Committee on Palestine met yesterday to review the plan of withdrawal in the light of the most recent developments.

The Committee discussed the possibility of advancing the date the Committee for terminating the Mandate from the 15th May to the 1st April. (This would not necessarily affect the date of August 1st for the final stage of the Military withdrawal). It was decided that the Chiefs of Staff should be asked to prepare an estimate of the extra cost, particularly that arising from the abandonment of military stores, which would be incurred if the date were moved forward to the lst April.

When this estimate has been received, the Committee will consider whether they should make a recommendation to Ministers for this change of date.

moren ZD H.Beela

8th January, 1948.



27 E 550 76 JAN 14 PALESTINE 1948 Weikdrawal, lippointment of Marjas fen RN. Heuren Registry Number £ 5-5-0/8/31 Myr Gen think har been appointed for exception numpose of segmenting the activitient and connection of military stards from Palulae Encloses and of tetter and finited theme sent & ganeral themet inter that prople a Palutine be natified of the appointment upplich the line, of reference encit garera it. FROM A Walson - Finith My Cyfence pumpost ch No. 5 his O Sargert PUBLIC Dated Received in Registry 9 yan RECORD. 14 ~ OFFI (Minutes.) Last Paper. ĉ 540 References. 371 2. P.P. 60 tel 124 & Piter 13/1 (Print.) The Ministry of Defence letter is a circular one 68612 and does not concern the Foreign Office, as regards instructions to people on the spot, so much as the War Office and Colonial Office. We can, however, (How disposed of.) J. M. Croutheck usefully send a copy of the directive to the British RAK. B.M.LO. Middle East Office. Draft herewith. (enc) hs. Jun Jan 23 Servies hiarion sept. (JGGES.BEITH) . 1948 January C1 27/1 ON DON GRAPI RAPH 161 I BE (Action completed.) (Index.) Next Paper. 5 26513 F.O.P.



Tel. No. : Whitehall 7000

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE, GREAT GEORGE STREET, S.W.I

th January, 1948.

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Dear Sargent,

JAN Major General R.K. Hewer, C.B., C.B.E., M.C., has been appointed by my Minister, as the result of the Cabinet direction that there should be a special appointment for the specific purpose of supervising the collection and evacuation of military stores from Palestine. In the light of discussions with all the Departments concerned, I have sent to Major General Hewer a letter and a general memorandum, of which I enclose copies for your information. I should be grateful if you would take any appropriate action to see that people on the spot are notified of the appointment and of the terms of reference which govern it. Major General Hewer will be in London at the end of next week, and we hope that he will proceed to Palestine by air on Monday, January 19th.

550

I have tent a letter in similar terms to Speed, Lang, Barnes, Rowlands, Jenkins, and Lloyd.

Yours sincerely,

Millon Smith

Sir Orme Sargent, K.C.B., K.C.M.G.

## 9th January, 1948.

### Dear Lever.

I write to confirm our discussions as the result of which it has been agreed between us that you will proceed to Falestine on behalf of the Ministry of Defence. The essential object of your appointment is to five all possible advice and assistance to the tervice ad other authorities in Palestine in connection ith the collection, wacustion and/or lopos 1 of military stores.

For this purpose you should

(a) examine the policy instructions slready issued by the Defende departments to their Commanders in Chiefs in the Middle Fast;

(b) examine the plans strendy made on the spot under the directions of the Commanders in Chief;

(c) if not estimized with or (b), sake representations to the appropriate authorities for their literation;

(d) if these representations to not produce a result regarded by you as satisfactory, report the points of disagreement to as for the information of

Najor General H.K. Hever. /the C. R., C. B. I., M. C.

# 78

the Minister of Defence and for discussion in London with the appropriate Department or Department.

-2-

(e) examine, in the same way, the plans of other responsible authorities, notably as regards the shipping of these stores to be evaluated by see and the disposal of these stores to be sold, and then proceed as under (c) and (d);

(f) at all times, provide the maximum assistance to the authorities on the spot regarding the implementation of their plane.

For your general guidance, I stiach a memorandme which has been prepared in the Ministry of Defence and circulated, together with a copy of this letter, to the Dervice Departments, Ministry of Supply, Ministry of Transport, Foreign Office and Colonial 011100

Yours sincerely,

Mille Smith





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# Menorandum for the guidance of Major-General R.K. Hower

It is the desire of H.M.G. that the maximum mount of serviceable stores, equipment, plant, machinery and vehicles should be evacuated from Palestine in the time available. In so far as stores, etc. are unserviceable or surplus to Service requirements it is the Gove.nment's policy that they should be hended over at the marliest date possible to the Ministry of Supply except in the case of varlike tores (including emmanition) which are dealt with separately below.

2. Your task will be to examine the plans made, the priorities laid down, and the action contemplated in pursuance of them by the Naval, Military and Air Force authorities and to advise whether they "epresent the best practical means of carrying out the Government's intentions. In this connection you will be concerned, in conjunction with the Palastine Government and the local Naval, Military and Air Force and Ministry of Supply aut orities, with every type of store and its disposal - whether recovery by the Service concerned for future use, disposal on the spot or to other countries, abandonment or destruction.

Priorities for evacuation must be considered in the light of the Services' essential needs over the next few years for constructional and accommodation stores of all sorts for housing troops and for machinery, workshop plant, and vehicles; on those priorities you will be advised by the Service Departments and the Ministry of Supply.

Attention should be directed to the adequacy of the arrangements made for safe removal or where this is not possible for the demilitarisation or destruction of all lethal weapons and ammunition.

The following are the approximate vantities of moveable stores excluding vehicles now held in Palestine:-

Force	31,000	(Subject tion by Ministry	the	0
Navy Army Air	<b>5,00</b> 0 325,000			

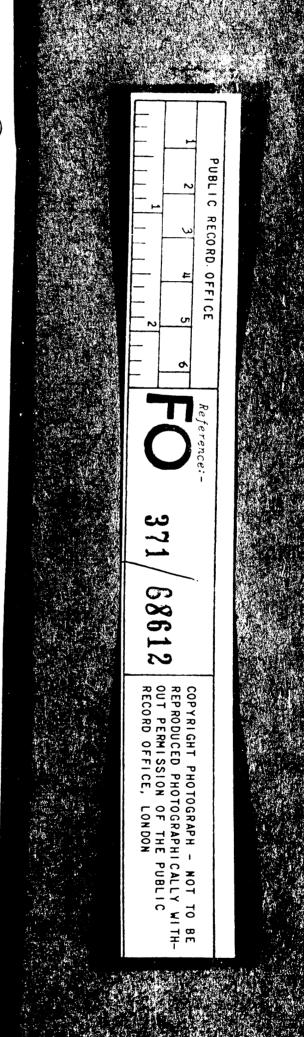
A main difficulty in connection with the removal of tores from Palestine ill be limitation of transport, including shipping. That will require consultation with the Chipping and other Transport authorities to assess the relative priorities of the different categories of stores competing for the limited movement facilities. It is understood that a preliminary estimate of the juantities likely to be removable ithin such transport facilities as at present foreseen ares-

> 1st Aug. By sea 250,000 tons 50,000 \* 29th Feb. Overland plus vehicles.

> > /The

Lorganisation in the Middle East,

confirma-Air



The Royal Navy hope to be able to provide shipping for their stores,

The disposal of stores other than warlike stores not 6. required by the Services is the responsibility of the Ministry of Supply. The important points to watch, so far as the Services are concerned, is that there is no delay in throwing up stores, equipment, etc., which are unserviceable or surplus to requirements and that arrangements are made for removal or sale under the most suitable arrangements of the maximum quantities of such stores - provided that their sale to particular individuals, agencies, etc., is in conformity with the policy of H.M.G.. On this last aspect consultation will be required with the local military authorities and/or (until the termination of the Mandate) the Civil Administration of Palestine.

Attention should also be paid to the possibility of 7. disposing of warlike tores and equipment to friendly Governments (e.g. Irac) where suitable transport arrangements are possible. In no circumstances, however, is any such propose to be adopted without the approval of the Foreign Office in Lendon.

8. If it proves impossible either to remove, well, demilitarise or destroy all stores and equipment before the Forces are withdrawn, arrangements for their safe custody should be completed as far as possible. This may require negotiations with the United Nations Commission in Palestine, or with Successor Governments, for the collection and safe custody of stores which we desire to remove after the completion of withdrawal, or which we wish to dispose of locally.

Contact should be made with, and any possible help should be given to, those responsible for the local arrangements and powers for dealing with fixed assets of all kinds, including the arrangements for their custody after completion of withdrawal. Your advice may be re uired by the Ministry of Defence on any major issues of policy which have to be referred home regarding the disposal of major assets. This is, of course, subsidiary to the main task as described in paragraph 2 above.

10. Contacts with the Service authorities will be arranged through the C.s in C. Middle East, who have been advised of the terms of the appointment and of this memorandum and have been asked to afford all assistance in their power. Contact should be made with the High Commissioner for Palestine on matters affecting the Civil Administration prior to the termination of the Mandate. Contacts with the Ministry of Supply authorities will be arranged through British Supply Disposal Mission, M.E., and with the Ministry of Transport authorities through the Principal Sea Transport Officer, Mediterranean, who have also been made aware of the arrangenents.

11. Monthly progress reports should be made to the Ministry of Defence, with copies to the appropriate authorities in Palestine.

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

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### OUTWARD TELEGRAM

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TO PALESTINE (Gen. Sir A. Cunningham) Sent 13th January, 1948. 09.15 hrs.

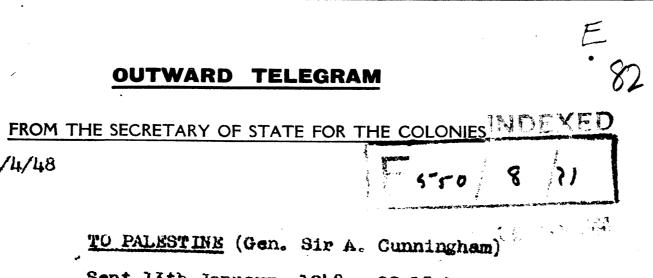
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Confidential, No. 124

As a result of recent decision by Ministers, Major General R.K. Hewer, C.B., C.B.E., M.C., has been appointed for the specific purpose of supervising the collection and evacuation of military stores from Palestine. He hopes to fly to Palestine on Monday January 19th. Savingram follows enclosing copies of terms of reference and memorandum supplied to Major General Hewer by Ministry of Defence. Request you will afford him all assistance.

Copies sent to:-

Ministry of Defence Ministry of Supply	444 447	Under	Secretary	of	State
Ministry of Transport	<b>ep</b>		35		E 8
Foreign Office	(S15	11 '	. 11		
War Office	-	77	18		ŧ
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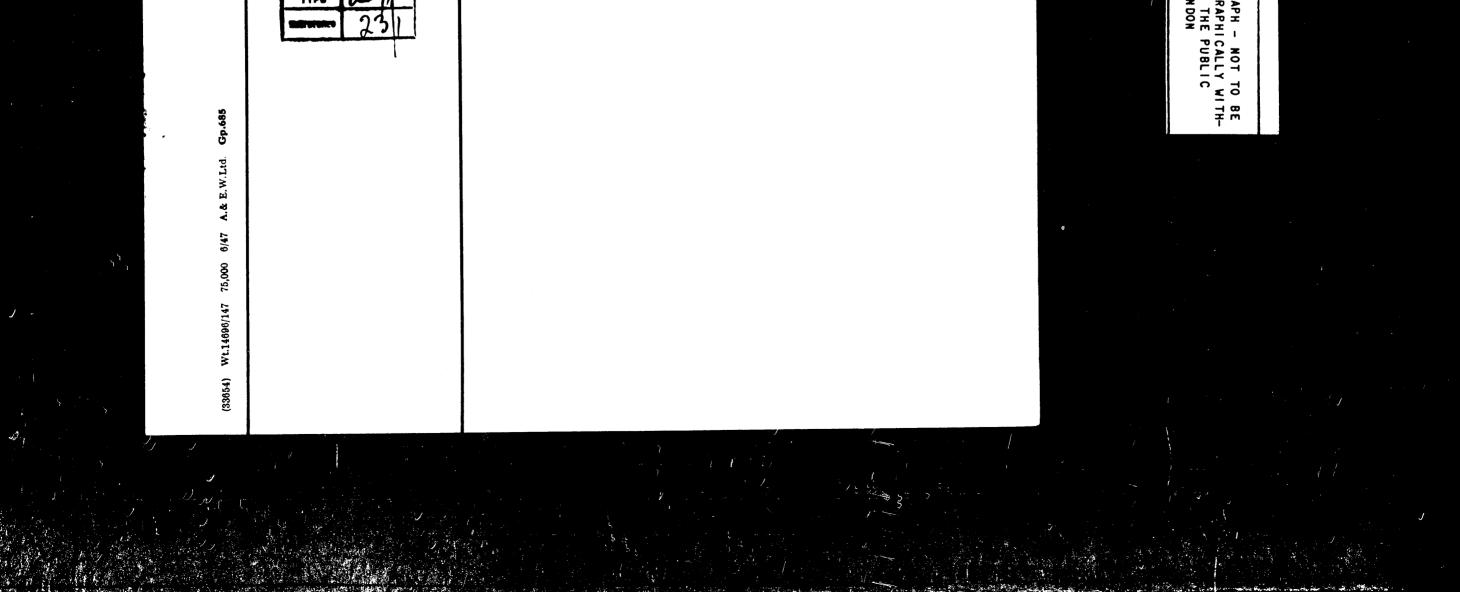


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20a 2010 Registry No. E 550/8/31. 83 FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1., Top Secret. 16th January, 1948. Secret. Confidential. JGSB. Restricted. Open. w Draft. letter. NAME PLEASE . British Middle Sir, East Office. I transmit to you herewith copy of a directive which is being given to Major-General R.K. Hewer, who has been appointed by the Minister of Defence to supervise the collection MARGIN. and evacuation of military stores in Palestine. It is hoped that Major-General Hewer will 2. THIS proceed to Palestine by air on Monday, January 19th. WRITTEN IN I am, Besseint Fan 16 etc. BE 10 NOTHING RECEIVED IN DIVISION. 20 JAN 1948 TYPE 20

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(E 550/8/31)

Sir,

I transmit to you herewith a copy of a directive which is being given to Major-General R.K. Hewer, who has been appointed by the Minister of Defence to supervise the collection and evacuation of military stores, from Palestine.

2. It is hoped that Major-General Hewer will proceed to Palestine by air on Monday, 19th January.

> I am, with great truth and regard, Sir, Your obedient Servant, (For Mr. Attlee)

FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1.

23th January, 1948.

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My. BARS Burrows

J.M. Troutbeck Esq., C.M.G., etc., etc., etc., Cairo.

No.

(E 550/8/31)

Sir,

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FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1.

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Re

M. BARS Bunass

J.M. Troutbeck Esq., C.M.G., etc., etc., etc., Cairo.